Magnolia Methodist Church

1856——1956

By

J. B. CAIN

MAGNOLIA METHODIST CHURCH
1856-1956

1898
Magnolia Methodist Church
Magnolia, Mississippi
1949

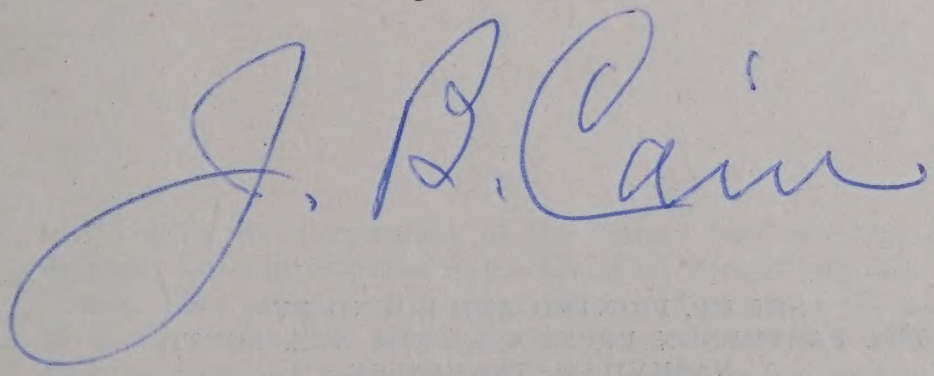
Magnolia Methodist Church

1856——1956

A History of Magnolia Methodist Church

by

J. B. CAIN



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* During the preparation of the history two members of the Advisory Committee passed away: David C. Wright and Mrs. N. B. Travis. Their service was of great value and much of the accuracy of the facts recorded in the history came from them. We honor their memory and we appreciate their fidelity to this worthy cause.

Dedication

This History of the Magnolia Methodist Church is dedicated with great appreciation to all the former members who have passed to their eternal reward. Their lives enriched the community and the church and the memory of their noble living inspires all of us to better lives.

Thanks

Our sincere thanks are given to those who made contributions for publishing the history in memory of the following:

Mr. Jerome Ford and Mrs. Fannie Ratcliff Ford
Mrs. Ardis Robertson Goza
Mrs. Mary Lampton Reid (Mrs. E. W. Reid)
Mr. Walter M. Lampton
Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Lampton
Mr. T. D. (Bob) Lampton
Dr. and Mrs. George W. (Lemmelia Lewis) Robertson

Introduction

It is a significant thing for a church to print its history. It is more significant to have a history worthy of being printed.

A church lives in deeds, not years. The Magnolia Church has years—literally more than a hundred of them to its credit—but it also has deeds, really too numerous to relate them all. Better still, the Magnolia Church has within it the possibility of having an even more significant part in changed lives, in community betterment, and in world redemption as it continues to serve the present age.

Large congratulations are in order for the Magnolia Methodist Church, and many are the persons throughout our land, especially throughout The Methodist Church at large and the Southeastern States in particular, who would be happy to have the privilege of extending the hand of praise and fellowship at this time. On behalf of them it is my privilege to write these few words.

The pastor of the Magnolia Church, Dr. J. B. Cain himself, is the best historian in our Mississippi Conference, and one of the finest in our Jurisdiction and whole Church. Through merit he is a member of the Executive Committee of the American Association of Methodist Historical Societies. More than a score of years ago he wrote a volume, *Methodism in the Mississippi Conference, 1846-70*, of such significance that Mississippi Methodism will forever be indebted to him. In the Introduction to that volume, Bishop Hoyt M. Dobbs wrote words that we want to make the heart of this brief message:

"Mississippi Methodism has produced some of the

noblest men and women in the history of the Church. We honor ourselves in paying tribute to their memory.

"History is of value and significance for a number of reasons. It keeps the record straight. It honors the names of our noble dead upon whose shoulders we stand. From it we are able to extract the distilled wisdom of human experience. It links the present with the past. It throws light upon the path ahead. It strengthens our morale. We must not forget who we were yesterday, if we are to realize who we are today."

In concluding, let me say that I take personal pride in the fact that my father's oldest half brother (Kenneth A. Jones) was junior preacher of the Magnolia Church during the first full year of its existence, that my own father (William Burwell Jones) had the privilege of serving the Magnolia Church as pastor, that I myself had the privilege of speaking at one of the church's centennial services in 1956, and that I have known many of the fine citizens of Magnolia and members of the church during the last three decades.

George H. Jones
Secretary, Mississippi Annual Conference
President, Southeastern Jurisdiction
Methodist Historical Society

Nashville, Tennessee
May 24, 1961
Aldersgate Anniversary

Methodism in Magnolia 1856–1956

Methodism In Pike County Before 1856

IT would be much easier to begin this history with the organization of the Magnolia Methodist church in 1856 but that method would ignore a period of nearly half a century of fervent and effective Methodist activity in this part of Pike County. For the truth is that Methodism got here a good long time before the town of Magnolia came into being as a station on the new railroad in 1856.

It seems probable or at least possible that the Reverend Tobias Gibson, first Methodist minister in Mississippi, visited this area during the period of time that elapsed between his coming in 1799 and his death in 1804. It seems almost certain that Reverend Lorenzo Dow came this way in his itinerant wanderings, his first visit to Mississippi being in 1803. It seems inescapable that their successors, Revs. Moses Floyd, Hezekiah Harriman, Abraham Amos, Learner Blackman, Nathan Barnes and others must have come this way and preached in this area.

The family of Peter Felder, Sr. came from South Carolina in 1810 and settled on Tangipahoa creek about a mile and a half from the present location of Magnolia. The next year a Methodist campmeeting was held near Magnolia, traditionally east of town, a campmeeting that moved more than once and changed its name at least three times before it became the present Felder's campground on Topisaw creek. John Felder, one of the sons

of Peter Felder, was converted at this campmeeting in 1811 and thus became the first person of record to join the Methodist Church in this community. Other members of the family, including Robert Felder, father of Mrs. W. M. Sullivan and said to be the first white child born in what later became Magnolia, and a daughter Aby Jane, who married Joseph Vaughn, were connected with the church, as was also the family of Elisha Prewett and his wife, Ann Huccabee Prewett, who came from Georgia about the same time. The family of Henry Sandell and his wife, Catherine Nobles Sandell, came in 1814 and from that time on were active and faithful members of the Methodist Church in the community.

While we have no record of this campmeeting, held near Magnolia in 1811, we are reasonably certain that all of the nearby Methodist preachers were present, including Rev. Miles Harper, Rev. Hezekiah Shaw, Rev. William Houston, and others. Uncertainty exists in regard to the church to which these pioneer settlers in this vicinity belonged. What name it bore, what sort of meeting place it had, the causes of its dissolution, are all matters of conjecture. Its organization was necessarily limited, consisting probably of a class leader, one steward, and perhaps three trustees, with only occasional visits from the circuit preacher, whose sermons were sometimes supplemented by those of local preachers.

Its successor seems to have been a church a few miles west, its location very likely determined by the fact that the Sandell family, long and favorably known in Pike county Methodism, settled here in 1814. While this church seems to have been the predecessor of Muddy Springs rather than Magnolia church it was the focal point of Methodist worship for all the people of this community for a number of years. East of Magnolia a church was established at Holmesville about 1820 that provided a center of worship for many who had formerly

worshipped in the original church. At an unknown date a Methodist congregation was formed near the present site of McComb but this was abandoned in the late '30's. White's campground, at the present village of Thompson in Amite county, was the scene of a camp-meeting and Annual Conference combined in 1814, and from 1815 on for many years Adams campground at Auburn was the outstanding Methodist church and community, its services being attended by the Methodist people for several counties.

A notable company of Methodist ministers served the circuits that included Pike county for the first thirty years of Methodist activity. The Rev. William Winans succeeded the Rev. Hezekiah Shaw on the Amite circuit, the first pastor, who served in 1811. Rev. Elisha Lott was pastor of the Amite circuit in 1813, during which year this vast circuit was divided, the western portion retaining the name "Amite" and the eastern half the name "Pearl River." Rev. Samuel S. Lewis was the first pastor of the Pearl River Circuit in 1813.

For the next quarter of a century the following pastors served these two circuits and preached in the vicinity of what later became Magnolia:

Amite circuit—John Phipps and Josiah B. Daughtery (1814); John Ira Ellis Byrd, (1815); Elijah Gentry (1816); Thomas Owen (1817); John Murrow (1818); Thomas Nixon (1819); John Booth (1820); Miles Harper (1821); Daniel DeVinne and A. J. Blackburn (1822); John Seaton (1823); Meredith Renneau (1824); Thomas Clinton and John G. Jones (1825); Thomas Owen and Joseph McDowell (1826); Francis R. Cheatham and Joseph McDowell (1827); Robert D. Smith and Isaac V. Enochs (1828); Barnabas Pipkin and Andrew Adams (1829); John Matthews and R. J. Warner (1830); John P. Haney and John B. Higgenbotham (1831); Bevil Tabor (1832); Needham B. Raiford (1833); Cotman Methvin (1834); Jesse A. Guice (1835); James Watson and Basil G. Puckett (1836); James Watson and

Philip H. Dieffenwerth (1837); Richard A. Stewart (1838); Jesse Ginn (1839); John H. Davidson (1840).

Pearl River Circuit—John S. Ford and Jonathan Kemp (1814); Elijah Gentry (1815); John Menefee (1816); Peter James (1817); Wiley Ledbetter (1818); Miles Harper (1819-1820); John Booth (1821); William Alexander (1822); Miles Harper (1823); Peter James (1824); John P. Haney (1825); Miles Harper and John Mann (1826); Peter James and Anderson C. McDaniel (1827); Thomas Clinton (1828); Richard H. Herbert and Daniel D. Brewer (1829); John P. Haney and Job Foster (1830); John Matthews and William B. Cobb (1831); James Watson (1832); James Applewhite (1833); John B. Higgenbotham (1834); Cotman Methvin (1835); Needham B. Raiford (1836); David M. Wiggins (1837); Charles J. Carney (1838); Isaac C. Foster (1839); with an unknown supply in 1840.

Many of these preachers have descendants in Mississippi now and many of them are remembered for outstanding service until the present time. Isaac V. Enochs was the ancestor of the Enochs family, many of whom are buried in the Magnolia cemetery. The observatory at Millsaps College is named for Peter James. The widow of David M. Wiggins, formerly Miss Melissa Babington of Franklinton, lived well into the present century.

An epochal event took place in 1841 that gave stability to Methodism in the south half of Pike county, namely the organization of Muddy Springs church, which has had a continued history since that time. Magnolia Methodism owes a great debt to Muddy Springs church, first for keeping Methodism alive during those years that the church there served as the only permanent center of Methodist worship in this area, and also for the fine contributions in membership to the Magnolia church. By 1841 Pike county seems to have been a part of the Pearl River circuit, though its connections with the Amite circuit were renewed from time to time. Both charges in 1841 were included in the Baton Rouge district, with Barnabas

Pipkin as presiding elder, Daniel Leggett as pastor of the Amite circuit and Edwin Phillips as pastor of the Pearl River circuit and therefore pastor of the newly established Muddy Springs church. From that time until the coming of the railroad in 1856 the Methodists in and around what later became Magnolia worshipped at Muddy Springs. Pastors of the Pearl River circuit between 1841 and 1854 were as follows:

Daniel Dealey (1842); Gabriel F. Spence (1843); Edwin Phillips and James R. Patten (1844); James Watson (1845); Hardy Mullins and John H. Myers (1846); Samuel Hawes and James H. Laney (1847); Andrew Day and James H. Laney (1848); Willis H. Germany (1849); Lewis A. Sims (1850); James M. Turner (1851); Peter E. Green (1852); Peter E. Green and Burwell B. Whittington (1853); George D. Wade and James H. Shelton (1854).

A good deal of activity of various kinds took place in this community before the railroad actually came in 1856. The only reference that we have to any Methodist services held here during that period is found in a report of the Rev. J. Harvey Winborne, a charter member of the Magnolia church and one of the donors of the original church property, to the District Conference of 1884, in which he said that attendance at church services was better than at any time since 1854, which clearly indicates that some plan for regular preaching services was established two years before the church was organized.

As indicated above Revs. George D. Wade and James H. Shelton shared in the responsibility for pastoral service at this time, with Rev. John Lusk as presiding elder of the district. Messrs. Wade, Shelton and Lusk were all young men (James H. Shelton being only twenty years of age). The probability is that these three held the first regular service of worship in the proposed town of Magnolia.

In 1855 the Pearl River circuit was divided, the western half taking the name of Holmesville from the county seat town, which was the cultural center of Pike county, having the courthouse, a new Methodist church, which is still standing, and a school of more than ordinary effectiveness. The pastor of the circuit for this year was the Rev. John Alexander Barnes Jones.

Rev. John A. B. Jones, pastor of the Holmesville charge in 1855, was closely related to Magnolia Methodism throughout his long and useful ministry. Thirty years later, 1882-85, he was the presiding elder of the Brookhaven district, which included Magnolia, and for the years 1897-99 he was pastor of the Magnolia church, leading the congregation in building the new church at the corner of Clarke avenue and Myrtle streets. After his retirement in 1904 he and his wife returned to Magnolia and made their home until his death in 1910.

The first settlers in the proposed town itself were Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Sinnott, who came in April 1855. It is said that Mrs. Sinnott gave the name of Magnolia to the town, though at first it was known by the railroad workers as the Ninety-Eight Mile Crossing.

In the fall of 1855 the Pike county Methodist circuit around Holmesville was again merged with the Pearl River circuit and two pastors were appointed, Henry M. Youngblood with David Watson as his assistant. The latter was a young man from Pleasant Valley church, Copiah county; Henry Mitchell Youngblood was a member of a Jefferson county family that has given several young men to the Methodist ministry. John Griffing Jones, father of John A. B. Jones, former pastor, was presiding elder of the district for 1856. By April 1856 the railroad from New Orleans was completed to the Bogue Chitto valley and the first train arrived in Magnolia on April 13, 1856.

Methodism Comes to the New Town of Magnolia

There must have been a great deal of excitement and feverish activity in the community in connection with the coming of the railroad. It was probably not very conducive to spiritual development. The economic change in the situation is well told by Dr. Holland McTyeire, later a bishop, who came this way in midsummer 1856, on his way to Adams campmeeting:

"Those who were so knowing as to know where the stations would be have made a fine spec by taking up the pine land at government price ($1.25 an acre) and selling out at $10.00 and more. Near Magnolia which is near the 100 mile post we were shown a fifty acre piece; it cost the present owner, two years ago, $50. Now he refuses $1,600 for it."

It was not until September 1, 1856, that the railroad station was open for business, with Eugene M. Bee as the first agent, but between April and September the trains stopped anyway and travelers came and went every day.

Less than two months after the first train arrived Ansell H. Prewett and his second wife, Lucinda Barron Prewett, gave a deed on June 4, 1856, to the trustees of the Methodist Church for an acre and a half of land extending four hundred feet from the railroad to what is now Cherry Street and from what is now Holly Street one hundred and fifty feet toward the center of town. No money is mentioned in the deed and apparently it was an outright gift. The wording of the deed indicates that a house of worship must still be built on the property, so that we may date the actual building of the first church for some time after June 4, 1856.

Trustees named in the deed were V. J. Wroten, Daniel Sandell, Thomas Cook, J. H. Winborne and H. W. Barron. Apparently most of these had been members at

Muddy Springs and there is no evidence that all of them transferred their membership to Magnolia. The Prewetts, Vaughns, Sandells and Winbornes probably constituted the major families in the new Methodist congregation, organized at some unknown time in 1856. The names of Magnolia's earliest settlers found in the excellent centennial sketch contains only three names, other than those above mentioned, who may be positively identified as Methodists. Dr. James H. Laney was a Methodist preacher as well as a physician. Along with his brother, David W. Laney, he had been admitted into the Mississippi Conference in 1846 and had served pastorates until 1854, when he temporarily left the active ministry and practiced medicine at Holmesville until moving to the new town of Magnolia two years later. Samuel Murray Sandell was a member of the well-known Sandell family.

Vincent J. Wroten, first-named trustee in the original deed, was also a doctor, a graduate of Kentucky Medical College, and a son of Wiley H. and Margaret Jones Wroten, pioneers from South Carolina. His son, Dr. William Monroe Wroten, practiced medicine in Magnolia for many years, and his grandson and namesake, Vincent J. Wroten, who now lives in New Orleans, has been a member of the Magnolia Methodist church since 1889. Thomas Cook and H. W. Barron were members of Muddy Springs church, the law of Methodism not requiring all trustees to be members of the local congregation. John Harvey Winborne was a local elder in the Methodist church, whose home seems to have been in the vicinity of Holmesville or Topisaw campground before coming to Magnolia. He and his wife, Mrs. Temperance Winborne, continued as active members of the Magnolia church, during which time he served as supply pastor of the circuit on more than one occasion, until

they moved to Columbia on April 1, 1885, where their descendants still live.

Daniel Sandell was born in South Carolina in 1792, a son of Henry Sandell and Catherine Nobles Sandell, who moved to Mississippi and settled near Magnolia in 1814. Daniel Sandell had joined the church in South Carolina in 1812 and was a member for 67 years before his death on December 13, 1879. He was the father of Rev. John Wesley Sandell, a member of the Mississippi Conference for more than forty years at the time of his death in 1913.

Ansell H. Prewett, the donor of the original lot for the Magnolia Methodist church, was a native Mississippian, born in 1812, soon after his parents came from Georgia, the oldest of several children. He was twice married, first to Miss Julia Ann Rayborn, the mother of his oldest children, six in number. His only child by his second wife, Naomi Evaline, married David Vaughn.

Not only did the Methodists organize a new congregation in 1856 but also a Sunday School. On the last day of the year a local Methodist wrote an account of the Sunday School in the new town, which was evidently in flourishing condition:

"Magnolia, Mississippi
December 31, 1856

"Mr. Editor: This is a new source from which to derive items for your paper, but we Magnolians hope that we may be able to furnish some facts which will inspire the people of the country with more energy in the advancement of Sunday School interest.

"We have a school of nearly fifty scholars; at this season the attendance is of course very irregular, but when a fair day occurs the pupils come up so cheerfully and seem so much interested that we have strong faith that the seed now being sown will bring forth good fruit.

"On Christmas our excellent superintendent (E. G. Cropper) surprised the pupils with a presentation of *Bonbons*.

The children were made happy and assured of an interest in them. It will eventuate in an increased attendance.

"We have a very pretty situation here for a town and though there is more cotton sent from other stations we think that we have the best chance of becoming important from the fact of possessing excellent water privileges, combined with a healthy location and good society. We would be glad to have more energetic Methodists; we have a few but they want assistance.

Respectfully,
N."

Henry M. Youngblood's associate pastor on the Pearl River circuit for 1857 was Kenneth A. Jones, a son of Ransom J. Jones and only twenty years of age. He was not related to John A. B. Jones. Kenneth A. Jones was an older half-brother of William Burwell Jones, pastor at Magnolia in 1933-35, seventy-five years later! Our oldest record contains two names of persons who came into the church in 1857 under Kenneth A. Jones: Elizabeth Quin Wroten and Elvira Quillen Hoke.

Whether the first building was completed in 1856 or 1857 no one now knows. The small congregation at Magnolia was part of a large circuit, which included all of Pike County, all of the present Walthall County and parts of Marion, Lawrence and what is now Lincoln County. On this circuit were some of the best-known churches and congregations in Mississippi Methodism: Muddy Springs, Topisaw, China Grove, Sartinsville, Monticello, Holmesville, Columbia, Sandy Hook and Hopewell, with others no longer living churches.

The Annual Conference of 1857 reestablished the Holmesville circuit, taking it from the Pearl River circuit. In the main the new circuit would include Pike County. James H. Laney was the new pastor of the Pearl River circuit, while Allen Castle and William Hoover shared the joint responsibility of providing spiritual guidance for the people of the Holmesville circuit. The church at

Holmesville occupied a commanding place on the circuit. The building was dedicated on the first Sunday in June 1857, with a sermon by Dr. Holland N. McTyeire of New Orleans. Holmesville is now (1960) the oldest church in Pike County and while its membership is small and its future a bit uncertain it has had a glorious history. The pastor, Allen Castle, was a man some thirty-eight years of age but with ten years in active ministerial experience. William Hoover, the associate pastor in 1858, was in the Conference only one year but served as a supply pastor later; Rev. Henry A. Gatlin was a grandson of William Hoover. Sarah Mosby, who later married Ed Singletary, joined the Magnolia church in 1858.

In 1859 John B. Bowen was pastor of the Holmesville charge and the Magnolia church. He had married Miss Rebecca Millsaps, a sister of Major R. W. Millsaps, on June 3, 1856; many former students at Millsaps College remember their daughter, Mrs. Mary Bowen Clark, librarian for the college for many years. He retired from the active ministry in 1870 and spent the remaining years of his long and useful life as a resident of Union Church, where he served as postmaster. His grave may be seen in the Union Church cemetery. The Annual Conference published a journal this year, which showed that the pastor at Holmesville received a salary of $550 for his year of service. How much was paid by the members of the Magnolia church we cannot know. A good revival was held in the Magnolia church in 1859, conducted by the pastor and nearby pastors.

Magnolia Methodism During War and Reconstruction

For 1860 Henry J. Harris was appointed pastor at Holmesville, Magnolia, Topisaw, Summit and other churches on the charge. Mr. Harris was a colorful leader

of Mississippi Methodism and a member of the Mississippi Conference for nearly sixty years. In 1861 he had as his associate Foster Ely, who spent the years 1862-63 as a chaplain in the Confederate army. Mrs. Lucinda Barron Prewett joined the Magnolia church in 1860. Willis H. Germany was pastor in 1862, Andrew Day in 1863, and both served the circuit in 1864 and the former in 1865. He was the grandfather of the Germany brothers at Pisgah church. Mrs. W. C. Vaught, the former Charlotte Hobart, joined the church in September, 1864. At the Annual Conference of 1865 the name Magnolia replaced that of Holmesville as the center of the circuit, with John B. Higgenbotham as pastor for 1866 and a supply pastor in 1867, probably J. H. Winborne or William Hoover. In 1868 P. M. Sibley was supply pastor and in 1869 Robert B. Downer, a son-in-law of William Hoover and the father of Charles E. Downer, retired member of the Mississippi Conference, served the charge. In 1870 George M. Liverman came from the Congregational Methodist Church to be pastor at Magnolia; a year later he transferred to Louisiana.

Just as the Magnolia church was beginning to recover from the effects of the late war the tragic death of Ansell H. Prewett on January 13, 1871, took from the church and community the man who had helped to establish both the town and the church. Mr. Prewett and his first wife, Julia Ann Rayborn Prewett, whom he married on December 14, 1837, had six children: Sarah, who married Wesley Powell and later Howell Dickey; William, who married Polly Ann Vaughn; James, who married Elizabeth Vaughn; Martha, who married Newton Nash; Elisha, who married Sally Harris; and Mary Ann, who married Cornelius Zachary. After the death of his first wife Ansell Prewett married Lucinda Barron, whose daughter, Eva, married David Vaughn. The Mag-

nolia Methodist church is greatly indebted to Ansell Prewett and his descendants.

For two years, 1871-72, John Wesley Sandell was pastor of the Holmesville charge, which included Magnolia, his home church; then for five years Henry Pope Lewis was pastor.

On February 24, 1872, John Harvey Winborne and Temperance Winborne sold to the church for the sum of $100 a half-acre of ground adjoining the original property secured from Ansell H. Prewett in 1856. Trustees in 1872 were Daniel Sandell, John Wesley Sandell, Cicero C. Gibson, J. H. Winborne and V. J. Wroten. The fact that the pastor served as one of the trustees indicated that not many men were included in the membership of the Magnolia church. Cicero C. Gibson was a brother of Rev. C. C. Gibson, father of the editor of the Magnolia Gazette. Later a parsonage was built on this spot and a small cemetery was there for a number of years.

Mrs. Mary Moore came into the church by certificate in 1872 during the pastorate of J. W. Sandell.

In 1874 during the pastorate of Henry P. Lewis, Sr., there came into the Magnolia church some fine people, among whom were Kate Wroten, who married Charles Davis later; Margaret Wroten, Jane Quillen, who later married Henry Kornrumpf, David F. Vaughn, for many years a leader in Magnolia Methodism, Eleanor Lee, who married Dr. W. M. Wroten, and Mrs. Carrie Robertson. Mrs. Eva Prewett Vaughn joined in June, 1877. The Summit district camp meeting was held at Magnolia, October 7-11, 1875.

In the fall of 1877 Henry P. Lewis, who had been pastor at Magnolia for some years, though he lived at Holmesville, became pastor of the Amite circuit. He was succeeded at Magnolia by Rev. Pinckney A. Johnston, who was appointed by the Annual Conference of that year. However, Mr. Johnston, for some reason, did not come as

pastor and Rev. J. H. Winborne, local elder, served the church as supply pastor in 1878. Mr. Winborne was a man of outstanding ability and, while never a member of the Annual Conference, he wrought nobly and well in his field of service.

Rev. J. W. Sandell was pastor of the Magnolia church during the years 1879-81. During his first year he received Mrs. Nannie Lenoir, Mrs. Myra Prescott, James C. Williams, and Dr. W. M. Wroten into the membership of the Magnolia church. The charge consisted of Magnolia, Holmesville, Topisaw, and Muddy Springs, with the church at Tangipahoa, La., on the circuit in 1881.

On December 13, 1879, the venerable Daniel Sandell, father of the pastor, passed away at the age of eighty-seven years, nine months, and twenty-one days. He had joined the church in South Carolina in 1812, two years before the family came to Mississippi. He had been a member of the Methodist Church for sixty-seven years and had lived for sixty years on the place where he died. A memorial sermon was preached by Dr. Harvey F. Johnson in the Magnolia church on Sunday, June 6, 1880.

The Magnolia Methodist revival began on September 4, 1880. The pastor, J. W. Sandell, had as his assistants Rev. W. W. Hopper, pastor at McComb and Summit, and Rev. James A. Parker of New Orleans, for whom Parker Memorial church in that city received its name.

Members received in 1881 included Mrs. Nannie Sandell, Mary Ann Prewett, later Mrs. Cornelius Zachary, Eloise Wroten, and Mrs. Lula Fridge.

Topisaw campmeeting resumed its activities in 1881, after some years of suspension. The campground was rebuilt and services there have continued until the present time.

On January 18, 1881, the venerable Quinnea Lewis, father of Henry P. Lewis, former pastor at Magnolia, passed away at his home in Holmesville. He was born

in Lenoir county, North Carolina, where he married Martha Speer on September 22, 1816, coming to Mississippi in 1820. He and his wife joined Union Academy, now Payne Chapel church in Marion county on June 15, 1822. His wife had passed away on December 31, 1875.

Pastorate of Rev. J. T. Nicholson

For 1882 the charge remained the same (Magnolia, Muddy Springs, Holmesville, and Topisaw,) with Joseph T. Nicholson as pastor, but in 1883 the church in McComb, the Magnolia church and the church at Muddy Springs were united into one charge, on which J. T. Nicholson continued as pastor through 1885.

The Brookhaven District Conference for 1881 met at Bethel church at Caseyville July 28-30, a full three-day session. Dr. Harvey F. Johnson, president of Whitworth College, was also presiding elder of the district. The Magnolia circuit was represented by Rev. J. W. Sandell, the pastor, and Messrs. F. A. Martin, Ira Felder, laymen, and J. H. Winborne, local elder. The Rev. Cornelius W. Grafton, Presybyterian pastor at Union Church, was present as a visitor. The pastor reported no parsonage on the charge.

A school was opened in Magnolia on January 23, 1882, by the Rev. Charles F. Smith, a recent graduate of Centenary College. A private school called Roane's Academy had been conducted by the Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Roane in their home, where the postoffice now stands, from 1860 until their deaths in 1876. What plans were made for schools after that time we cannot say. Professor Hennington had announced the opening of a school in the Magnolia Methodist church on September 23, 1881, but on account of illness was not able to do so and died on October 1. The following advertisement appeared in the local paper:

MAGNOLIA MALE AND FEMALE SCHOOL

Corner Myrtle and Cherry
Magnolia, Miss.
Charles F. Smith, Principal
The first term will begin
January 23, 1882
Tuition as follows:
Primary class per month—$2.00
Higher class per month—$3.00

The school had a definite Methodist flavor, since Rev. Charles F. Smith was a Methodist minister. Mr. Smith was a native of Scott county, and a local preacher. In 1884 he was admitted into the Conference and served Columbia for one year; After which he was transferred to Texas. His wife was Miss Agnes Chrisman, sister of the missionary, Miss Clara Chrisman.

Mr. Smith continued the school presumbly at the same location during the session of 1882-83, beginning his second session on September 4, 1882.

The Pike county courthouse at Magnolia burned on July 1, 1882. Many valuable records of church deeds were lost but fortunately the original deeds to property in Magnolia were still in possession of the trustees and were duly and properly recorded when the new courthouse was built.

Charles Davis and Miss Kate Wroten were married on January 25, 1882.

During the years after the organization of the Magnolia Presbyterian church in 1875 the Methodists and Presbyterians had conducted a joint Sunday School at the Methodist church on Cherry street. Since neither denomination had full-time services in Magnolia they alternated in preaching services. The new Presbyterian building was opened on April 21, 1882, with a meeting of the New Orleans Presbytery to which the Magnolia Presbyterian church belonged.

During the week of July 2-9, 1882, a revival was held in the Methodist church conducted by J. T. Nicholson, the pastor, assisted by Charles F. Smith and J. H. Winborne of Magnolia, J. W. McLaurin of Brookhaven, and W. B. Lewis of Crystal Springs. Four persons transferred their membership to the Magnolia church during the revival: Mrs. Nannie E. Sandell, Mrs. Mary Ann Zachary, Mrs. M. I. Harding, and Mrs. John Lenoir. Thirty-two others took the vows of membership:

Misses Mollie Vaught, Eloise Wroten, Genie Duncan, Viola Sellers, Mary McGee, Helen Nash, Belle Reed, Sallie Reed, Gertrude Vaught, Ella Hoke, Gertrude Hoke, Mary Reed, Lottie Van Melton, Hattie M. Reed, and Eva Harding; Messrs. W. C. Vaught, C. A. Zachary, Otis Hoke, Charles Norris, George G. Gibson, A. L. Lazar, W. H. Joyner, T. C. Simmons, D. H. Loch, A. J. Hoke, J. M. Green, J. H. Copes, W. L. Coney, Jr., F. J. Loch, Dr. E. F. Harding, W. G. Reed, Charles Blount, Harry B. Ford, and Jerome Ford.

As a gracious gesture to the departing Presbyterians four new members went to that church as one of the results of the Methodist revival: Miss Mary Joyner, W. N. Joyner, Willie Ulmer, and J. D. Burke. The Presbyterians organized their own Sunday School on Sunday morning, July 23, 1882, with the following officers: H. C. Capell, superintendent; George Folsom, assistant superintendent; J. D. Burke, secretary and treasurer; Mrs. A. S. Capell, Miss Gena Folsom, Miss Mary Joyner, George Folsom, and E. Smiley, teachers.

The Methodists reorganized their Sunday School on July 30, 1882, with the following: Captain J. S. Lamkin, superintendent; T. C. Simmons, secretary; I. C. Enochs, treasurer; James Brent, librarian; W. C. Vaught, T. C. Simmons, C. A. Zachary, Dr. W. M. Wroten, Mrs. Amanda Gatlin, Misses Mollie Gatlin, Mollie Vaught, and Nellie Safford, teachers.

An outstanding revival was held at Muddy Springs August 25 to September 2, 1882, in which thirty-five persons joined the church there. One of that number, William L. Powell, is with us still after more than three quarters of a century.

In 1882 the District Conference met at Topisaw August 15-16, during the campmeeting, with John A. B. Jones, former pastor at Magnolia and now presiding elder, in the chair. Representatives from Magnolia consisted of the pastor, J. T. Nicholson, and the faithful local elder, J. Harvey Winborne, who led the devotional service on Tuesday evening. The pastor reported to the conference: "Spiritual condition not very good, but improving. Very few hold family prayer. Church conferences held at each appointment. Sacraments dully administered; a majority of the members commune. Two Sunday Schools prospering." This addition was made to the pastors report "Bro. Winborne reports a great improvement at Magnolia in respect to spirituality and temperance."

Both the pastor and presiding elder were returned by the Conference of 1882 and the work of the new year began without interruption. Some marriages of local Methodist interest took place early in the year. Cicero C. Gibson of Magnolia was married to Miss Laura Matthews of Hazelhurst, a daughter of John R. Matthews, by Rev. William G. Millsaps. W. F. Ellzey and Miss Mollie Gatlin, a daughter of John B. Gatlin, were married by Rev. J. T. Nicholson.

Less than a year after the loss of the Magnolia courthouse by fire the old courthouse at Holmesville, a building more than fifty years old, burned on April 20, 1883.

The Brookhaven District Conference met at Hazelhurst on September 6, 1883; the presiding elder, John A. B. Jones, was on vacation for his health and W. B. Hines, pastor at Summit, was chosen as the presiding officer. W. W. Hopper was elected secretary. The report

of J. T. Nicholson, pastor of the McComb City charge, which included Magnolia, reads as follows:

"Spiritual condition of the churches good, with the exception of one. Weekly and young men's prayer meetings are held and with great profit. Some conversions in all of our churches this year. About one-fifth of the membership attend the social meetings. No regular class meetings, yet there are experience meetings. The Sacraments are administered. Our families have their children baptized. Pastor talks to the people on their spiritual conditions. The church at McComb City is in a cold condition, yet I suppose it is in as good a state as it ever was. Prayer meetings well attended there. A satisfactory meeting at Magnolia; six accessions. We had a very fine meeting at Muddy Springs; it was a manifestation of power. About a half-dozen families hold family worship. One hundred and seventy-five members on the circuit. Church conferences held regularly."

In a later report on Sunday Schools and finances the pastor said:

"Methodist Sunday Schools at all the churches and all doing well. The one at McComb is doing finely; it is the first Methodist school ever organized in the town. Brother C. W. Brown is the superintendent. School at Magnolia doing well. Not quite so good system as at McComb. At Muddy Springs there is a small school doing well; the superintendent is a Godly man.

Finances: Assessed for P. C. $535, paid $200. Assessment plan in operation. Have two church houses. Title secured for one. We use Presbyterian church at McComb City."

A tragedy took place in Hazelhurst on November 6, 1883, when J. P. Matthews, a well-known Methodist and a brother of Mrs. Cicero C. Gibson of Magnolia, was killed by E. B. Wheeler in connection with an election controversy.

John A. B. Jones was returned as presiding elder and J. T. Nicholson as pastor for another year. On February

7, 1884, Rev. Joseph Tully Nicholson and Miss Theodora Lewis were married at her home near Rose Hill in Jasper county, not far from his boyhood home. There was still no parsonage for the circuit but the young couple made their home in some hospitable residence in Magnolia.

T. C. Simmons was superintendent of the Sunday School for 1884, succeeding Captain J. S. Lamkin.

In 1959, all Methodism observed the 175th anniversary of its formal organization in America in 1784, but in 1884 all Methodists were observing the centennial of Methodism in America. Just how elaborate was the observance we do not know, but the services on Sunday, June 1, 1884, at Magnolia were devoted to commemorating the Christmas Conference held at Baltimore in 1784.

The Brookhaven District Conference met in the Magnolia church on June 26, 1884, with John A. B. Jones as presiding officer, Robert S. Ricketts as secretary, and W. B. Lewis as assistant. The following were present:

Brookhaven district—John A. B. Jones, presiding elder.
Adams circuit—W. B. Hines, pastor; J. L. Tucker and E. L. Tarver, local preachers; J. E. Carruth, recording steward; R. M. Carruth and C. W. Beam, delegates.
Brookhaven station—R. S. Ricketts, recording steward; John Marshall, delegate.
Crystal Springs—W. B. Lewis, pastor; J. P. Conroy, delegate.
Hazlehurst station—H. D. Howell, pastor; R. W. Millsaps, delegate.
McComb and Magnolia—J. T. Nicholson, pastor; J. H. Winborne, local elder; C. F. Smith, local preacher; D. F. Vaughn, C. W. Quinn, J. M. Page, S. Hibbert, and Thomas Moore, delegates.
Providence circuit—H. P. Lewis, pastor.
Scotland circuit—B. F. Jones, pastor.
Spring Ridge circuit—Ira B. Robertson, pastor; W. E. Harris, recording steward.
Summit and Topisaw—H. W. Featherstun, pastor.

Wesson and Beauregard—J. L. Forsyth, pastor; John G. Jones, superannuate; J. H. Thompson, recording steward; F. D. Wimberly, delegate.

Rev. Mr. Ingram of the Presbyterian church of Scotland was present as a visitor. Late in the session he spoke to the Conference, expressing his appreciation for the courtesies extended him and "referring feelingly to his connection with Wesleyan Methodist missionaries in foreign lands and extending to the conference the cordial Christian greetings of the church to which he belonged."

The report of Rev. J. T. Nicholson on his charge was as follows:

"At Magnolia the spiritual condition is tolerable, but not so good as it was at the close of the year. Good congregations and increasing. At McComb City the condition is not uniform. Some of the members there . . . are earnest and faithful. Many untoward influences are at work in the society of the place. At Magnolia regular social meetings are held. There is a young men's prayer meeting, which sometimes is converted into a class meeting, from which much good is expected. A number of young men pray in public. Church conferences are held. Not many hold family prayer. At Muddy Springs there is a fine class of praying young men growing up in the church, and there is also a number of earnest spiritual old men."

The secretary of the conference at this point adds:

"Brother Winborne thought that there was more genuine spiritual interest in the church at Magnolia than there has been since '54."

This clearly indicates that Methodist services were held in the community at least two years before the church was organized in 1856.

The report on Sunday Schools was also mildly optimistic:

"One school, a joint school of Methodists and Presbyterians at McComb City, not now prospering as heretofore. Would do better if it were wholly Methodist. One school at Magnolia doing well. A good interest in education. About 13 copies of the Advocate taken."

As mentioned already the session on Saturday afternoon was devoted to the Centennial or Centenary of Methodism, with appropriate addresses by various persons. The Conference adjourned with the close of the afternoon session on Saturday but a goodly number of the members of the Conference remained through Sunday which was the great day of the Conference. Sermons were preached during the session by H. D. Howell, W. B. Lewis, B. F. Jones, H. W. Featherstun and Ira B. Robertson. The presiding elder, who was also a former pastor, probably preached on Sunday morning and his father, the venerable John G. Jones, preached a Centenary sermon on Sunday afternoon.

Considerable local interest was felt at the Sunday morning service by the presence of W. M. Lampton and I. W. Lampton and their brides.

In reporting on the McComb situation the pastor said:

"At McComb City we have occupied the Presbyterian Church by invitation. Recently a movement has been made to build a Methodist church, and subscriptions to the amount of $400 have been taken for the purpose."

The McComb church received its name from the fact that the church was built during the Centenary observance.

Just before the District Conference at Magnolia a picnic was held at Holmesville, the former county seat of Pike County on June 14, 1884. The principal speaker for the occasion was Rev. H. Walter Featherstun, pastor at Summit. Possible because of renewed interest in edu-

cation through the Centenary program he urged upon the people of Holmesville the establishment of a college in that place. It was at first decided to build some two miles south of Holmesville but later, for the sake of economy, the school was established in Holmesville, using a hotel built in 1840 by Jeremiah Bearden. The school opened on September 29, 1884, with Dr. Featherstun as president. Miss Willie Lott of Brandon taught mathematics. The name of Kavanaugh College was bestowed upon the school, in recognition of Bishop Kavanaugh. Many people from Magnolia attended school there during its brief history of some six years.

A revival was held at Magnolia in September, 1884, by Messrs. J. T. Nicholson, pastor, C. F. Smith, principal of the local school, and W. W. Simmons, visiting preacher. Mr. and Mrs. T. H. McGowen and Smiley Prewett were received into the Methodist church and Charles F. Ulmer joined the Presbyterian Church. An entertainment was held at Central House, Magnolia's leading hotel, on October 18, 1884, under the direction of Mrs. W. C. Vaught and Mrs. C. C. Gibson, where the sum of seventy-six dollars was received to buy chandeliers for the church.

This had been a year of outstanding weddings among the Magnolia people. Rev. J. T. Nicholson and Miss Theodora Lewis were married in February; Will McClutchie and Miss Mamie Travis, Walter M. Lampton and Miss Lucy Brumfield, Iddo W. Lampton and Miss Victoria Babington were all married in midyear; and D. H. Loch and Miss Carrie Bales were married on Christmas Day. One faithful and useful member, Francis M. Hoke, died on November 19, 1884.

The year 1885 was a significant one for Magnolia Methodism. Repairs on the Methodist church building were completed in February. J. H. Winborne, L. E., preached his farewell sermon in Magnolia on March 29 and moved to Columbia on April 1. A revival was held

in the church here in September, conducted by the pastor, J. T. Nicholson, assisted by H. D. Howell and John A. B. Jones. Samuel Bacot and Simeon Felder Elliott were received into the church on November 3, following a sermon by C. C. Gibson.

Bishop Galloway preached the dedicatory sermon at the present Muddy Springs church on Sunday, November 24, 1885, and at night preached a sermon in the Magnolia church which had been repaired and restored. We have his own account of this happy occasion:

"In response to an invitation from the pastor, Rev. J. T. Nicholson, we had the pleasure of dedicating the new church at Muddy Springs, four miles west of Magnolia in the morning and of rededicating the remodeled and refurnished church in the town of Magnolia in the evening. . . . A vast congregation crowded the church to its utmost capacity to witness the formal reopening and rededication services. About eight hundred dollars had been expended on the building, adding greatly to its appearance and appointments. But for its rather inconvenient distance from the center of the town the brethren would be entirely content with their estate. This is the fourth consecutive year the present pastor has served that people. . . . Two new churches—one at McComb City and one at Muddy Springs—have been built and the house at Magnolia repaired—all at a cost of $4000. Two hundred and eighteen members have been added to the church."

Pastorate of Rev. J. W. McLaurin

James Wesley McLaurin succeeded Rev. J. T. Nicholson as pastor of the McComb City circuit, which included McComb, Magnolia, and Muddy Springs churches. Mr. McLaurin was a cultured and scholarly man. He preached his first sermon at Magnolia on a Tuesday night in January, 1886.

The District Conference met at Wesson this year on Thursday, July 1, 1886, and continued through Saturday night, July 3, with services probably on Sunday also.

Rev. J. T. Nicholson and Messrs. W. C. Vaught and T. C. Simmons represented the Magnolia church. The pastor reported to the Conference as follows:

"The spiritual state of the church is moderately good; the attendance at religious services good. At the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper nearly all members commune. There have been thirty two accessions and one infant baptism."

The presence of the venerable John G. Jones at this District Conference was a matter of pleasure to members of the Magnolia church, who had known him as presiding elder as far back as 1856, thirty years before. He was the first historian of Mississippi Methodism and his contribution in this field has never been surpassed, his histories being the standard by which all others have been measured. He was now 82 years of age and two years later he passed to his final reward. His son, the Rev. John A. B. Jones, was both pastor and presiding elder of the Magnolia church and after his retirement made his home in Magnolia until his death in 1910.

Bishop Charles B. Galloway, who had just been elected to that office while serving as pastor of the Brookhaven church and editor of the New Orleans *Advocate*, presided over part of this District Conference session.

Local reports on Sunday Schools to this District Conference were as follows:

"There are two Sabbath Schools, one at McComb City and one at Magnolia . . . A regular teachers' meeting at both places . . . Bro. T. C. Simmons reported the Magnolia Sunday School as in a prosperous condition. The attendance is larger than last year. There are about 30 scholars. The school uses our literature."

After the District Conference A. F. Watkins, who had come from the Martin circuit to take Bishop Galloway's

place at Brookhaven, preached at Magnolia on Sunday night, August 1.

The pastor, J. W. McLaurin, held a revival at Magnolia in September, assisted by B. F. Lewis, pastor at Bogue Chitto and later pastor at Magnolia. As a result the following persons were received into the church here: Miss Ella Bacot, Mrs. Alice Johnson Dickey, Miss Margaret Jennings, Willie Lazar, Edward Lazar, Miss Eva Vaught, Henry Kornrumpf, and two Misses Matthews.

In 1887 services were held by Mr. McLaurin at Magnolia every first Sunday. On February 6, 1887, he preached at the Magnolia church from the text: "Walk in love." On March 27 a number of Magnolia people went to Adams for the dedication of the church by Bishop Galloway; Rev. M. L. Burton was pastor. The Woman's Missionary Society of the Adams church was organized that afternoon.

William Micon Stevens, a son of Capt. James H. Stevens of Holmesville, was licensed to preach by the quarterly conference at Holmesville on April 2, 1887. When W. M. Stevens died in 1901 he was buried in the Magnolia cemetery. When he was licensed to preach in 1887 he was a student at Kavanaugh College.

Dr. W. C. Lehr, a dentist, and Mrs. Lehr, were received into the Magnolia church by certificate. The collection on the first Sunday in February amounted to $102. Needham E. Alford, who lived on the Magnolia-Holmesville road and held membership at the latter church, was licensed to preach in May; four of his sons became Methodist preachers and three of them (J. M. Alford and J. A. Alford of the Louisiana Conference and C. W. Alford of the Florida Conference) are still living at the present time (1960).

A Ladies Church Improvement Association was organized on June 17, 1886, with Mrs. W. M. Wroten (the

former Miss Elinor Lee) as president; Miss Mollie Vaught secretary; and Mrs. Henry Kornrumpf as treasurer. There was a Band of Hope, which met every Sunday afternoon in the Magnolia Methodist church, Mrs. C. C. Gibson being the president.

On May 15, 1887, Rev. J. W. McLaurin, pastor of the Magnolia church, accepted the position of agent for the American Bible Society in New Orleans. His place was taken by the youthful John D. Crymes, a recent graduate of the theological school at Vanderbilt University, for the remainder of the year. Children's Day was observed at the Magnolia church on June 5, 1887. Dr. H. W. Featherstun of Kavanaugh College made an address and, among others, Miss Rosa Lazar gave a poem, "Your Mission."

On April 21, 1887, Dr. Henry Lamkin, a son of J. S. Lamkin, was married to Miss Alice Rose in Natchez. On September 13 Thomas C. Simmons and Miss Mary H. Vaught were united in marriage by Rev. J. W. McLaurin.

Many Magnolians attended campmeetings at Topisaw, where 1500 people were reported to be present, and at China Grove, where sixteen preachers took part in the services.

Rev. E. T. Denson preached twice at Magnolia on the fifth Sunday in October and Rev. John D. Crymes preached his last sermon before going to Conference on the first Sunday in November.

Pastorate of Rev. T. W. Adams

A number of changes took place in 1888. Muddy Springs church was taken from the McComb and Magnolia charge and placed with Adams circuit of which M. L. Burton was the pastor. This enabled Magnolia to have two preaching Sundays each month. Thomas Walker Adams was the new pastor; he was thirty-eight years of age and a graduate of Emory and Henry Col-

lege. The new pastor preached his first sermon on Sunday, January 7, 1888, at Magnolia and his first sermon at Osyka on the following Sunday. From January until the latter part of June the Adams family lived in McComb; they then occupied the Gatlin residence in Magnolia until Conference, the present home of John Reid Goza.

February was a full month in Magnolia. On the 4th the youthful Dudley Lampton observed his tenth birthday with a gathering of friends and neighbors. On the 10th Willie A. Daniels and Miss Rovilla Collins, later residents of Magnolia, were married by Rev. Albert C. Flowers. On the 25th there was a prohibition rally at the courthouse, with addresses by Hon. R. H. Thompson of Brookhaven, Dr. E. A. Rowan of Wesson, Rev. A. A. Lomax of Magnolia, and Rev. C. H. Otken of Summit. Rev. H. W. Featherstun, president of Kavanaugh College at Holmesville, preached at the Magnolia church on the last Sunday in the month.

A day of prayer and fasting was observed on March 2, 1888. Dr. and Mrs. A. P. Sparkman, the former Miss Eva Vaught, observed their silver wedding on March 10. The Brookhaven District Conference met at Summit in April, Bishop Keener presiding. All of the pastors except two were present and the following laymen: Robert S. Ricketts, J. F. Sexton, J. H. Thompson, J. F. Biggs, J. W. Bethea, J. J. Magee, S. D. Persell, J. S. Lamkin, W. C. Vaught, W. T. McFadden, T. E. Millsaps, B. F. Goza, R. J. Barbour, M. H. Felder, H. M. Quin and W. T. Coumb. This interesting notation is in the minutes: "Brother J. S. Lamkin, lay delegate from the charge, reported eighty Sunday School scholars at Magnolia—average attendance fifty. Much interest by those attending prayer meeting."

In May, 1888 Rev. Charles F. Smith of St. Augustine, Texas, former teacher here, visited in Magnolia. Chil-

dren's day was observed the last Sunday in May, with a history of Sunday Schools given by the pastor.

A goodly delegation from Magnolia, not all of them Methodists, attended Seashore campmeeting: Captain and Mrs. D. C. Wright, Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Sandell, Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Wroten, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. McGowen, Miss Lula Dickey, Miss Myra Cook, W. C. Vaught, H. B. Ford, A. G. Stratton, J. W. Elliott and Mrs. J. C. Lenoir.

On September 30, 1888, a children's missionary circle was organized at the home of Dr. Wroten under the name of Little Workers, with Lillian Wroten as president, Lucy Zachary as secretary, and Lera Adams as treasurer.

John Dunning and wife came to Magnolia this year and became members of this church. The Dunnings were an old Copiah family. Rev. John D. Ellis, pastor here in 1928-29, was a namesake of John Dunning.

Mrs. Sarah Mosby Singletary, widow of Ed Singletary, and a member of the Magnolia Methodist church since 1858, passed away on October 10.

A most significant event took place on October 9, 1888, in the opening of the first session of the Magnolia High School in its new building, the house in which A. B. Connally now lives. Professor R. P. Moore was principal with Miss Lizzie Jourdan as his assistant. Trustees of the school were W. M. Wroten, A. L. LeBlanc, H. B. Ford and W. M. Lampton, most of whom were Methodists. All of the town council at this time were Methodists: Mayor A. L. Lazar, W. M. Wroten, S. B. Williams, D. C. Wright and H. B. Ford.

Pastorate of Rev. B. S. Raynor

Rev. T. W. Adams moved from Magnolia at the end of one year and was succeeded by Rev. B. S. Raynor, who arrived in Magnolia with his family four days before

Christmas. They too occupied the Gatlin residence.

George H. Collins and Miss Alice Eaton were married at Williamsburg on February 9.

Bishop McTyeire died on February 15. On the same day Miss Kate Felder, a student at Kavanaugh College, who had volunteered at Topisaw campmeeting the previous summer to go as a missionary to Mexico, also passed away.

Each year at District Conference the pastor's report had concluded "No parsonage." So a committee was appointed in March 1889 to build a parsonage, consisting of H. B. Ford, W. M. Lampton, D. F. Vaughn and C. C. Gibson. The same plan prevailing in McComb a joint meeting was held and it was decided to build the parsonage in McComb. These brethren above were therefore added to the joint committee, of which C. M. Crossley, later a Methodist minister, was also a member. The pastor, B. S. Raynor, was a man of more than ordinary business ability and led the movement for the erection of a parsonage, which stood somewhere about where the city hall now is located in McComb. Progress on the new parsonage at McComb was rapid and on August 10 Rev. B. S. Raynor and his family moved to McComb to occupy the new home provided for them. Almost exactly one year later, in August 1890, the pastor at Magnolia moved into a newly constructed parsonage.

A revival was held in May by B. S. Raynor the pastor, assisted by George D. Anders, Nathan J. Roberts and J. M. Cowan, all nearby pastors. Children's Day was held on the last Sunday in May, with speeches by the pastor, also by Jackie Vaught, and Rosa Lazar, who joined the Magnolia church on August 6, 1889. A second revival was held in the Magnolia church later in the year, of which the following account appeared in the New Orleans Advocate:

"Our meeting at this place began September 9 and closed October 6. It was a first rate meeting throughout. The interest was fine at the beginning and it increased until it at last reached the 'high water mark.' Our church here was probably never in better condition. This is the judgment of some of our oldest members. We have fewer 'deadbeats' than in any other church for its size that I ever saw. The membership is one hundred and twenty. A more liberal people I have never seen. The meeting resulted in great spiritual good to the church and in twenty accessions. Brother Watkins of Brookhaven did most of the preaching and did it to the delight and joy of his hearers. Brother Lewis, our presiding elder, was with us the latter part of the services, laboring with great acceptability and to the edification of our people. Magnolia is one of the most pleasant and prosperous towns on the I. C. Railroad. Our accessions to date in this charge—Magnolia and McComb City—number ninety-one. The revival influence is felt throughout the work. God be praised."

Among those received in 1889 were the following: Captain and Mrs. D. C. Wright, Misses May, Cherry and Jessie Wright, David C. Wright, Jr. and Augustus Wright, Walter M. Lampton and Mrs. Lucy Brumfield Lampton, Claude L. Lampton, James H. Copes, Miss Ada Lenoir, who later married Dr. A. D. Felder, Hugh Wroten, Vincent Wroten, Miss Rosa Lazar, E. W. Cutrer and Mrs. Cutrer, John Zachary, Booth Vaughn and Marvin Vaughn.

One significant event during the pastorate of Rev. B. S. Raynor was the organization of a Ladies Aid Society on January 22, 1889, with thirteen charter members: Mrs. Eleanor Wroten (President), Mrs. Florence Dunning, Mrs. B. S. Raynor, Mrs. W. C. Vaught, Mrs. Lucy Lampton, Mrs. Jane Kornrumpf, Mrs. Minnie Williams, Mrs. Jane Quillen, Mrs. Amanda Gatlin, Mrs. Elvira Hoke, Mrs. Mollie Simmons, Miss Tena Simmons, and Miss Mary Copes.

William H. Prewett, son of Ansell Prewett, died on

March 17. James A. Ferguson, who had married Miss Adeline Sparkman in 1850, died in June. Nicholas Sinnot, the first settler in Magnolia in 1855, died in New Orleans on August 29, and Henry Gottig, who had been in Magnolia since 1861 in the home in front of the present Methodist church, died on September 11. Miss Clara Chrisman of Beauregard was drowned on May 31 at Johnstown, Pennsylvania, on her way to Brazil as a missionary.

Thad B. Lampton graduated at the University of Mississippi in June. R. P. Moore of the local high school faculty was married to Miss Jane Hyer of Meridian in August. William M. Stevens was married in December to Miss Sophia Ball. The same month his father, Captain J. H. Stevens, moved from Holmesville to Magnolia.

The high school opened in the fall with an enlarged faculty. R. P. Moore, a native of Gainesville and a graduate of the University of Mississippi, was again principal this second year, with Miss Lizzie Jourdan again his assistant. Miss Mabel Craven was added to the faculty in charge of music and art.

When the Annual Conference met at Crystal Springs in December a number of changes were made in the grouping of churches in Pike County. Magnolia became once more the center of a circuit. With Magnolia were placed Osyka, which had been with the Amite, La., circuit in 1889, and Muddy Springs, which had been for two years with Adams. The new pastor at Magnolia, George H. Galloway, a member of the well-known Galloway family in Madison county and a cousin of Bishop Galloway, was married on December 19, 1889, to Miss Emma Leavell of Hinds County and came with his bride about the first of January to Magnolia, where they had an apartment at the home of Mrs. Mary Gottig.

Children's Day was observed on May 24, 1890 with speeches by Claude Lampton, Ida Sprich and Lillian

Wroten. There was an address by Capt. John S. Lamkin and a sermon by Rev. George H. Galloway.

The major event of the year in Methodist circles was the building of a new parsonage on Cherry street adjacent to the church. A news item in the Magnolia Gazette August 2 stated "Rev. G. H. Galloway and wife are now at home in the Methodist parsonage." The new home is said to have cost about $1,000, the work on which was done mainly by Messrs. G. H. Galloway and A. L. Lazar. The Ladies Aid furnished the parsonage. The young ladies gave some kind of party in order to raise money for the parsonage fence. Rev. Thomas S. West, pastor at Wesson, gave a lecture at Magnolia in the interest of the new parsonage. Dr. West and Rev. A. F. Watkins assisted the pastor in a revival in September. Dr. Watkins was agent for the new college, not yet named nor its location determined. Mr. Huff, editor of the local newspaper, nominated Magnolia as a suitable place for the new college.

On June 23, 1890, Jerome Ford and Miss Fannie Ratcliff of Liberty were married; the bride was a faithful and loyal member of the Magnolia Methodist church for many years. Mr. Ford died in 1927 and Mrs. Ford in 1945.

Cornelius A. Zachary died suddenly at the Edwards House in Jackson on May 2, 1890, leaving a widow and four children. When his widow died in 1940 she was ninety years of age.

The final commencement of Kavanaugh College under the presidency of Dr. Featherstun was held in June, with a sermon by T. S. West. Freshman orator was Felix H. Thompson, sophomore orator was W. P. Fussell, and junior orator was T. F. Morgan. Essayists were Miss Emma May Featherstun from the freshman class, Miss Annie Bell Cain from the sophomore class, and Miss Rhoda Brister from the junior class. Graduates were Misses

Mamie B. Andrews, Barbara S. Thompson and Etta J. Warner. Dr. Featherstun had been elected president of Edward McGehee College in Woodville.

Later Prof. G. W. Lightsey of the Whitestown school was elected president of Kavanaugh. Rev. Charles B. Freeman, a native of Noxubee county and a Baptist minister, served as president for two years before his death on June 11, 1892. He was the father of Mrs. Charles E. Brumfield. Gradually the school ceased its noble career.

There are at least three honored ladies still living in 1960 who are former students at Kavanaugh College: Mrs. W. M. Sullivan of Magnolia, the former Miss Julia Felder; Mrs. H. A. Comfort of Canton, the former Miss Edna Dunning; and Mrs. J. T. Leggett of Biloxi, the former Miss Josie Featherstun. All of these have been connected with the Magnolia church.

George H. Galloway was continued as pastor in 1891 and was active in every good word and work. His future ministerial career took him into many places of responsibility before his death in McComb in 1916.

Pastorate of Rev. V. V. Boone

During the period between the departure of G. H. Galloway and the arrival of the new pastor, Victor V. Boone in January 1892, the preaching in the Magnolia church was done by Charles F. Smith and at Muddy Springs by J. D. Warner, both local preachers. Writing in mid-year Mr. Boone says of his charge:

"Truly our lines have fallen to us in pleasant places. All who have served the good people of this charge will bear me witness. Due largely to the persistent efforts of Brother G. H. Galloway we have a comfortable parsonage, complete except painting, which we hope to do in the near future. The Ladies Aid Society, small in number, deserve much credit in the furnishing of the parsonage. They are constantly adding household articles and purpose carpeting the floors this year. . . The general condition of the work is above the average. Our

congregations have been remarkably good from the first, especially at Magnolia. The weather and other circumstances have been against us at Muddy Springs; yet we expect a great revival there. We found a revival spirit at Osyka, and it continues to burn. Our church there is small and financially weak; yet they are doing better in proportion than either of the other churches. I feel that this credit is due them. We are busy getting ready for our District Conference."

Officers of the Ladies Aid were: Mrs. J. B. Gatlin, president; Mrs. W. M. Wroten, vice-president; Mrs. Jerome Ford, secretary; Mrs. Annie Sprich, treasurer.

The pastor's salary was as follows: Magnolia, $400; Muddy Springs, $155; Osyka, $125.

The Brookhaven District Conference met at Magnolia in July, Robert S. Woodward presiding, with W. T. Griffin and R. S. Ricketts as secretaries. Regular preaching services were held during the conference, with sermons by M. J. Miller, J. G. Galloway, I. W. Cooper and J. M. Weems.

The Magnolia High School opened again in September with R. P. Moore as principal and one hundred and forty students. Assistant teachers were W. K. Nettles, former president of Gillsburg Collegiate Institute, Miss Jessie Wright, a graduate of Whitworth College, Miss Emma Hyer, a graduate of Franklin Female College, and Mrs. J. H. Price, the former Miss Ida Gill, a graduate of the Gillsburg School, who taught music. During the school year a Chautauqua was organized in the school of which Miss Nannie Walker was president, Miss Dulcia Leggett, vice-president, Miss Lida Huff, secretary and Miss Inda Galvani, treasurer, with Miss Pearl Dorsey critic.

Marriages during the year included Rev. C. C. Gibson of Summit and Miss Minnie Foote of McComb; Edward Smiley of Ramsay, La., and Miss Mary Copes of Magnolia.

A number of very fine members were added to the

church here in 1892. Among them were Miss Julia Lazar, Mrs. Fannie Ford, Mrs. C. C. Gibson, Fletcher Enochs, and Fleet Simmons. A revival was held in November, conducted by Paul Brown of Louisiana, C. A. Munn of the Presbyterian church, H. W. Van Hook, and Inman W. Cooper.

The Kavanaugh College property at Holmesville had fallen into financial difficulties and was sold at auction in December by W. W. Vaught, trustee, to John Bond, for four hundred and fifty dollars.

The outstanding event of the year in educational circles was the opening of Millsaps College at Jackson in September, 1892. The first student to enroll was Henry A. Gatlin, son of Zebulon Gatlin of Johnston Station and a relative of the Gatlins at Magnolia.

We are most fortunate to have the following reminiscences from Mrs. V. V. Boone, who lives in San Antonio:

"My husband, Rev. V. V. Boone, and I arrived at the Magnolia parsonage Christmas week of 1891. It was a new building of five rooms and a central hallway. At the time we moved into this new parsonage, it was yet unpainted. However, the good women of the church gave this matter their special attention and the raw, rough boards were soon painted. During the three years we were there, they continued to improve the parsonage and were constantly bringing in new furnishings.

My two older children, Leslie, and Will, were born there. Will, the second child was buried there in Magnolia. Since my husband was also serving some four or five appointments, other than Magnolia, I spent much of my time while he was away in the homes of the members.

The Ladies Aid Society bought four lots which became the site of the new church, paying $600.00 for them. These lots and their beautiful trees were the choicest in the city.

I will always remember Magnolia and its gracious people.

Sincerely,

Mrs. V. V. Boone."

The grounds of the present church property were bought from Miss Grace Lewis of New Orleans on April 6, 1894 for six hundred dollars.

A letter to Dr. Inman W. Cooper from James H. Copes of Magnolia under date of April 19, 1894, was sent by the former to the *Advocate:*

"Enclosed find check for twelve dollars and fifty cents for Millsaps College from the Magnolia Sunday School. We held our first public meeting Sunday and had a very nice exercise and an address by Brother Boone. Have adopted the little wooden collection barrels, and I am assured that we will be able to raise fifty dollars for the college this year."

To which R. G. Porter added this statement:

"Hurrah for Magnolia! This is no small rosebud, but a full-grown flower, large, open and wonderfully fragrant. Every Sunday School in Mississippi ought to be moved to action by the fragrance of that Magnolia blossom. What Sunday School will bloom next?

Your uncle,
Gilderoy."

A letter from the pastor explained the above action and gave additional information about the work on the Magnolia circuit:

"My work has been enlarged since Conference by the addition of one church and four other preaching places, with Rev. J. T. Abney as junior preacher. . . . He reports a church organized at Whitestown, with forty-odd members to date. . . . The necessity is upon us of building a better church in the town of Magnolia. The Ladies Aid Society has purchased four of the most eligible lots in the town at a cost of $600 and has presented them to the church with proper deed. We expect to sell the property now in use and use the proceeds in the erection of a new church on these lots. This society, heretofore local, has learned that the broader their field of operation the more they can do; so they have joined the Parsonage and Home Mission Society." (Apr. 4, 1894)

Brother Cooper made his first visit to Magnolia as agent of Millsaps College not long since. He raised about $90 and enlisted the Sunday School in the work of building the new boarding hall. Last Sunday they had their first public exercise. It was a very pleasant and profitable occasion, and a grand success for the beginning. He provided the children with little contribution barrels, in which they saved their nickels and dimes. One little girl earned most of hers ($1.50) by helping 'Auntie' make the beds. This was the largest amount. They are going to repeat these exercises quarterly and are expecting a visit from 'Gilderoy.' They will send Brother Cooper $12.50, the result of this first meeting. They expect to raise $50 this year."

Some excellent members came into the church here during 1894, including Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Lampton and their daughter, Miss Mary Lampton, later Mrs. E. W. Reid, and Daniel K. Boone, the latter a brother of the pastor.

Officials in 1894 were W. C. Vaught, H. B. Ford, D. F. Vaughn, S. B. Williams, and W. M. Lampton, stewards, the two latter being also trustees; Thomas C. Simmons, trustee and superintendent of the Sunday School, C. C. Gibson and W. M. Wroten, trustees, and R. P. Moore, secretary of the church conference. Z. Z. Linton, E. L. Bowen, Miss Florence Grogan were added to the membership of the church. In August, 1894, Tokichi Masao of Japan spoke in Magnolia and collected $22.50 for Kobe Training School.

The Pastorate of Edward F. Edgar

At the Annual Conference of 1894 V. V. Boone was sent to Washington circuit and Edward F. Edgar took his place as pastor. Samuel B. Williams succeeded T. C. Simmons as superintendent of the Sunday School. Among those added to the membership were Mrs. E. F. Edgar, her son, Joseph E. Norwood, W. A. Daniel, Mrs. Rovilla Collins Daniel, T. B. Lampton, Mrs. D. M. Boone, J. F.

Boone, D. R. Boone, John Peterson, Mrs. John Peterson, W. W. Joyner, T. J. Lord, Buford Moore, Charles Rushing, James Vann, W. A. Lazar, A. G. Stratton, H. N. Turnage, Mary E. Turnage, R. C. Root, D. J. Bethea, and others whose names are not a matter of record.

At the third quarterly conference on September 2, 1895, Lucius L. Lampton, Harry B. Ford, and Phillip H. Enochs were appointed a "building committee for new church."

An account of this quarterly conference and related matters was furnished the *Advocate* by the pastor, E. F. Edgar:

"The third quarterly conference for this charge for this year was held September 21, 22, at Magnolia. Rev. R. D. Norsworthy, our faithful and efficient presiding elder, was with us in the spirit of the Master. He gave us three very excellent sermons. . . . Class and prayer meetings are means of much good. Womans Parsonage and Home Mission Society just organized and full of holy enthusiasm.

We will build a new and handsome church on one of the most beautiful and eligible lots in our city. This lot was secured by our consecrated women and their faithful former pastor, Rev. V. V. Boone. A Building Committee, composed of such men as L. L. Lampton, H. B. Ford, and P. H. Enochs, was appointed by the last quarterly conference to raise the funds and erect the church."

Later Dr. W. M. Wroten was elected to this committee in place of H. B. Ford, who was moving to Centerville.

Edwin Hartfield Mounger became presiding elder for 1896 and E. F. Edgar was continued as pastor, with J. W. Sandell as associate and W. F. Harden as an exhorter. The name of the latter will be found on the marble slab in the front wall of the church. E. L. Bowen and W. N. Jones moved their membership elsewhere.

The first report of the new Society appeared in the

Advocate on March 19, 1896, from the pen of Mrs. Fannie R. Ford, corresponding secretary:

"The Womans Parsonage and Home Mission Society of the Magnolia Church observed and fully carried out the programme arranged for February Week of Prayer, with the exception of the Sunday night service. . . . We congratulate ourselves upon having such a leader as Mrs. E. F. Edgar, our pastor's wife. . . . Truly the week's exercises proved a spiritual blessing to all. The envelope collection amounted to $10."

A revival was held in May and June of which the pastor wrote as follows:

"Some weeks ago I invited Rev. W. M. McIntosh to come to Magnolia and hold a tent meeting. He accepted the invitation and came arriving on Wednesday, May 27. I began the meeting in our church on Sunday, the twenty-fourth; Dr. I. W. Cooper came on Monday and remained until Wednesday morning, giving us three most excellent sermons. Everything had been arranged for a successful meeting and we were not at all disappointed. The tent was put up on the most eligible and beautiful lot in our little city. . . . Fifty-four have been received into the Methodist Church and others yet to be received. The Baptist Church received thirty-five or more. The Presbyterians and Episcopals each received three or four. . . . Our choir was simply superb, rendering faithful and efficient service."

For his services the visiting minister received $289, a princely sum in 1896. Mrs. J. H. Price and Miss Lucy Zachary served as organists, with Prof. C. W. Smith as director of the large volunteer choir. Misses Annie Sparkman and Ruth Sparkman played violins, Professor B. F. Batte, Miss Eva Crowder, and D. Harmon Loch played cornets and T. H. Parkins a clarinet. There must have been a joyful noise unto the Lord!

Thirty-eight members were received by the Baptist church and three each by the Episcopal and Presbyterian

churches. Eleven persons came into the Methodist church by certificate of transfer:

Mrs. Kate Herron, Miss Helen Herron, J. J. Ball, T. B. Lampton, N. E. Ball, W. T. Skelton, J. R. Thomas, Mrs. Mary Thomas, W. J. Pickens, D. C. Holmes, and Miss Kate Fenn.

Forty-five new members came into the Methodist church on profession of faith:

Effie Williams, Arthur Williams, Eva Vaughn, Lucie Vaughn, Mrs. Dollie Root, Ronald L. Fridge, Sam R. Stevens, Henry Lazar, Jethro Vaught, Robert Bales, Howard Hoke, Thomas J. Hilborn, Albert H. Sprich, E. D. Safford, J. J. Bales, W. T. Harden, W. H. Prewitt, John A. Lamkin, Mrs. Annie E. Lamkin, Mrs. Maggie Lazar, W. L. Coney, Jr., Mrs. Louisa Coney, M. C. Coney, Henry Carter, William Rabb, Willie Brumfield, Myrtle Brumfield, Annie Godfrey, B. D. Ponder, T. D. Zachary, Alice Prescott, Emma Prescott, William Guy, Miss Lila Lea, Charles Loch, John W. Loch, I. E. Bales, Vince Guy, J. D. Rabb, Robert Prescott, George Prescott, J. C. LeBlanc, Lucius Conerly, Thomas J. Scott, and Neva Sandell.

E. D. Safford was a son of Judge Elias Safford, postmaster at Magnolia. Judge Safford was eighty-four years of age and soon after this time he returned to New York State, where he was born, to make his home with his daughter. He had been in Mississippi more than fifty years.

The Brookhaven District Conference met at Magnolia, July 16-18, 1896, Dr. E. H. Mounger presiding and Rev. W. W. Morse serving as secretary. Samuel Enoch Carruth and Hannibal Eugene Carter were licensed to preach. S. B. Williams and T. C. Simmons were delegates from the Magnolia church.

Dr. T. B. Holloman, one of the visitors, describes this Conference:

"We reached the pleasant little town of Magnolia, the county seat of Pike county, Miss., just at sunrise. At nine A.M. we found ourselves at the Methodist Church in the midst of a District Conference. . . . The hour fixed to hear from Millsaps College was four P.M. Friday but other matters postponed the time until after five, when many of the members and visitors had quietly taken their leave; so our audience was disappointing. However, we were allowed an extra chance from the pulpit at 8 P.M.

We were pleased to learn that our church is to be moved to a more central portion of the town, and to be replaced by a more modern building. We are due thanks for a delightful home with Brother Ira B. Robertson in the family of Dr. Wroten, who made us feel entirely at home."

Iddo W. Lampton, Mrs. Victoria Lampton, and Misses Nurcelia and Frances Lampton transferred their membership to the local church in October, 1896.

The Pastorate of Rev. John A. B. Jones

The pastor, E. F. Edgar, was transferred to the church at Barlow at Annual Conference and was succeeded by John A. B. Jones. His first wife, the former Miss Lucy Cotton had died and he had recently married Mrs. Juliet Peale of Vicksburg. Two new officials were on the roll, Richard C. Root and James H. Copes.

The list of new members in 1897 includes Mrs. Mary R. Peale, Mrs. Kitty M. Norwood, Mrs. Gussie Lenoir, Miss Alice Lamkin, Mrs. Josephine Conerly, and Miss Lucy Conerly. The death of Captain David C. Wright took place this year.

The following account of a visit to Magnolia in May by an unknown author is interesting:

"On Sunday, the twenty-third, we had the privilege of preaching the commencement sermon of Magnolia High School. . . . Under the administration of the present efficient principal, Prof. W. N. Hardee, this institution is enjoying great prosperity, the enrollment for the session being con-

siderably in excess of two hundred. At night we dispensed the word at the Methodist Church to a very large and attentive audience. . . . Magnolia has recently taken on new life, a number of handsome stores and residences having been erected within the last twelve months. We were pleased to meet our friend, Rev. J. W. Sandell of the Mississippi Conference, who resides here. During our stay we were most hospitably entertained in the palatial home of Brother and Sister L. L. Lampton. . . . We also enjoyed the generous hospitalities of the genial occupants of the Methodist manse, Brother and Sister J. A. B. Jones. Brother Jones is in the midst of a very prosperous pastorate. . . . He has both a new church and a new parsonage in his program for the near future."

The Annual Conference of 1897 returned Rev. John A. B. Jones to the pastorate of the Magnolia and Osyka churches, while Dr. J. M. Weems was placed on the district, after an absence of only nine years from the same position in 1886-88. It seems probable that some delay in the work of the local church was caused by the epidemic of yellow fever. The pastor and the building committee began at once the plans for the new church and on February 10, 1898, the *Advocate* carried this encouraging statement:

"I am delighted to assure you that the contract and bond for building our new church in Magnolia have been signed, and the work has begun. L. W. McDaniel and Louis Lenoir are the contractors. The location secured by our noble women is, of course, the most desirable in this city for the building. When completed, we will have one of the most convenient, comfortable, and handsome church edifices in the State."

About two weeks later, on February 24, 1898, a new statement appeared:

"The completed foundations indicate the form, style, and ample accommodations of the new church the Methodists are building corner of Myrtle and Clark streets, Magnolia, Miss. The cornerstone will be placed in proper position in the

northeast corner with due and ancient ceremony, Wednesday, March 9. Ex-Governor John M. Stone, Grand Master A. F. and A. M., will perform the functions of the Grand Lodge, escorted by the local and neighboring lodges. Bishop Charles B. Galloway will deliver one of his characteristic and inspiring addresses.

John A. B. Jones."

The eventful day, March 9, 1898, arrived and the cornerstone was laid with addresses by Ex-Governor John M. Stone, Colonel J. L. Power, and Rev. J. M. Weems, who spoke in place of Bishop Galloway, who could not be present. Rev. John A. B. Jones, pastor, was general chairman, and Rev. V. V. Boone, now pastor at Summit, led in prayer. Two offerings were taken, one for the Protestant Orphans Home in Natchez in the sum of $38.10 and another of $50, which was turned over to Mrs. C. C. Gibson to help furnish the new church.

Members received in 1898 included W. N. Jones, I. W. Lampton, Mrs. E. L. Langston, Mrs. S. E. Ball, J. A. Brisbane, and Mrs. Hattie Brisbane, all of them by certificate. The building of the new church absorbed the thinking of the people. The Spanish-American War went on through most of the year. Another outbreak of yellow fever in 1898, though mild in its course, created great uncertainty and in some instances prevented church services and campmeetings. Steady progress was made throughout the year on the new church building, approximately $5000 being expended during the year for that purpose. The pastor reported to the fourth quarterly conference, "We have been so absorbed in efforts to build a house to the Lord that our collections for other purposes have fallen short." The trustees reported a new church valued at $6000. The old church and parsonage property was sold for $1000 and the proceeds applied on the new church. This was considerably below its valuation a few years before, when the old church was valued at $1700 and the

parsonage at $800, but the effect of the depression and the need of securing the money caused the trustees to sell for a smaller amount.

The pastor reported to the same quarterly conference:

"We held appropriate farewell services in the Old Church October 2nd and the first service in the new October 16th."

The exact nature of this service we do not know. There were people in the congregation who could remember when it was built in 1856. It was a solemn hour. A deed was made to the property by W. M. Wroten, T. C. Simmons, and C. C. Gibson on September 23, 1898, to W. M. Lampton and L. L. Lampton, describing the property as the north half of Square 33, bounded by Cherry, Holly, and Railroad streets. The pastor apparently still continued to live in the parsonage, even after it was sold, by the kindness of the new owners. The church itself was probably unoccupied until the early part of 1899, when the following news item appeared in the local paper:

"Mr. N. Carson, the house mover, was in town Monday and informed us that he would shortly roll the old Methodist church building out to Cherry Street to be converted into a residence."

There is some question as to the final disposition of this original Methodist building. The late David C. Wright affirmed that it was sold to the colored Baptist church, now on Poplar street, and formed the central part of their present church building.

On the 5th of July, 1899, the Lampton brothers sold to Mike Day the entire north half of Square 33, for $900. Mr. Day on August 28, 1899, sold a part of the square, an area some 250 feet square and including the parsonage, to E. G. Peale for $750. The latter was a son of Mrs. John A. B. Jones and this adds confirmation to the theory

that the Jones family continued to live in the parsonage as before, since it was now in the family. This was Mr. Jones' last year as pastor here and at the Annual Conference of 1899 he was transferred to the church at Brandon, later to Gloster, and finally to Hazlehurst, from which place he retired in the fall of 1904, returning to Magnolia to make his home until his death in 1910.

A nation-wide freeze took place in February 1899, that sent the thermometer two degrees below zero. Miss Lucy Zachary, secretary of the Sunday School, reported that attendance was very poor. J. H. Copes, one of the faithful officials of the local church, moved to Columbia, Tenn., and offered his property in Magnolia for sale. The Parsonage and Home Mission Society elected officers on March 9, 1899: President, Mrs. Amanda H. Gatlin; First vice-president, Mrs. J. W. Sandell; Second vice-president, Miss Lucy Zachary; Local treasurer, Mrs. L. M. Gibson; Connectional treasurer, Mrs. J. E. Norwood; Secretary, Mrs. Vincie Simmons; Agent "Our Homes," Mrs. G. M. Vaught.

Mrs. Frances A. Gibson, 81, widow of Gilbert G. Gibson, died on March 28th. She left two sons, Hon. C. C. Gibson and Rev. C. C. Gibson, and four daughters, Miss Jane Gibson, Mrs. Herald, Mrs. McFadden, and Mrs. Heron. Colonel J. M. Wesson, founder of the town of Wesson and a frequent visitor to Magnolia, died on April 25th, and was buried in Jackson.

Mrs. Dell Boone, wife of J. F. Boone and mother of Rev. V. V. Boone, died December 16, 1899. She was survived by her husband, also by four sons and by a foster daughter, Miss Florence Grogan.

There were three graduates of the Magnolia Graded School in its eleventh session: Marvin Vaughn, Estelle Briley, and Gussie Coney. On May 14th, 1899, Miss Lillian Lombard Wroten and T. Jackson Vaught were married in the new Methodist church by Rev. J. W. Sandell,

possibly the first wedding in the new building. Dr. George W. Robertson, who had come to Magnolia to practice medicine on March 11, 1899, was married to Miss Lemmelia Lewis of New Orleans at Jackson, Tennessee, on October 17, Rev. W. B. Lewis officiating.

An Epworth League was organized on April 2, 1899. It seems probable that Dr. Featherstun, the presiding elder, was one of the chief promoters of the latter organization. He had organized the first Epworth League in Mississippi at Holmesville while he was president of Kavanaugh College. To the end of his long and useful life Dr. Featherstun was the friend of Epworth Leagues. In early days the Epworth League was a young adult movement and the officers of this first Epworth League at Magnolia were Mrs. J. E. Norwood, president, Mrs. Lillian Wroten Vaught, first vice-president, and Dr. G. W. Robertson, second vice-president.

A revival meeting was held in April of this year, conducted by Rev. N. J. Roberts, a member of the Louisiana Conference. During the year Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Robertson transferred their membership to Magnolia and for more than half a century were useful and honored members.

Bob Lampton, Jethro Vaught, and Frank Lampton attended Centenary College at Jackson, Louisiana, during the session of 1899-1900.

The Pastorate of Rev. F. M. Keen

The Annual Conference of December, 1899, assigned the Rev. Francis Marion Keen to the pastorate of the Magnolia and Osyka churches. Dr. Featherstun was still on the district. Officials for the new Conference year for the Magnolia church were W. C. Vaught, J. E. Norwood, D. H. Loch, L. L. Lampton, Dr. G. W. Robertson, S. B. Williams, W. M. Wroten, W. F. Hardin, W. M. Lampton, D. F. Vaughn, a noble company. S. B. Williams was

superintendent of the Sunday School and W. Booth Vaughn was president of the Epworth League; Miss Florence Grogan was the first vice-president of the latter, Miss Eloise Wroten the second vice-president, Miss Willie Moore the third vice-president, Miss Orell Jenkins was secretary, and Miss Effie Williams was treasurer. The membership was twenty-six. During the year some changes were made in the list of officers, H. L. Harden becoming first vice-president, Miss Florence Grogan second vice-president, Mrs. J. E. Norwood, third vice-president, Mrs. Richmond secretary, and Miss Zachary treasurer.

The Methodist Church, always quite ready to take advantage of every seasonal interest, projected the Twentieth Century Fund in 1900. A rally was held in the Magnolia church in mid-year in the interest of this cause and $150 was secured in cash and pledges. This fund was largely for schools and colleges.

The parsonage formerly in use had been sold the year before to E. G. Peale. Certain amounts were paid during 1899 for "rent of parsonage." During the pastorate of Rev. F. M. Keen the final payment on the indebtedness on the new church was paid and the church was ready for dedication.

The following account of the dedication of the church on Sunday, April 15, 1900, appeared in the Magnolia *Gazette* which contained a picure of the new church, a picture of the pastor, Rev. Frank M. Keen, a picture of Bishop Galloway, a picture of the pastor under whom the church was built, Rev. John A. B. Jones, and a picture of Mr. Louis Lenoir, the contractor and builder:

"Although the rain was falling in perfect torrents quite a good congregation braved the storm in order to hear one of Mississippi's most illustrious sons, Rev. Charles B. Galloway, D.D., preach the dedicatory sermon of the new Methodist church, Sunday at 11:00 o'clock. The choir sang as voluntary 'Glory to God in the Highest', after which they sang

an anthem 'I Was Glad' by Dungan. . . . The Bishop then preached one of the most excellent sermons ever heard in any pulpit, his theme being 'The Temple or Church and its Influences.' His text was Psalm 84:1-4. . . .

"He closed with an earnest exhortation stressing the church's need always to look to and seek the source of spiritual energy. Hymn 697 was then sung, during which the officers of the church came forward and through J. E. Norwood presented to the Bishop the church to be set apart from all unhallowed or common uses for the worship of almighty God, after which the Bishop pronounced the sentence of dedication. . . . It was built during the time Rev. J. A. B. Jones was pastor of the church and cost, complete, $6,000.

"Mr. Louis Lenoir was the contractor and builder, and no one could have done better. . . . The pastor, Rev. Frank M. Keen, and congregation may well feel proud of that beautiful edifice."

Two members of the Magnolia church, P. H. and F. B. Enochs, were transferred to Fernwood church, a new organization that is still in active operation after sixty years. J. W. Sandell served as its first pastor. For 1900 H. B. Trevilion was named as pastor at Fernwood. From this time on members of the Enochs families were members at Fernwood or McComb.

During the Brookhaven District Conference in 1900, a Womans Foreign Missionary Society was organized in the Magnolia church, taking its place along beside the Womans Parsonage and Home Mission Society, organized a few years before. Mrs. Lucius Lampton was the first president of the Foreign Society. At the fourth quarterly conference, held on October 28, 1900, W. M. Lampton, J. E. Norwood, and D. F. Vaughn were appointed a building committee for a new parsonage.

There was an enthusiastic response to the leadership of the pastor. All items in the budget were paid in full for the first time since the depression began a few years earlier. The pastor received a salary of $908, and the total amount raised for all purposes was $2903. This included

the sum of $295 raised by the Home Mission Society and $11 raised by the newly organized Foreign Society. Rev. B. F. Jones replaced Dr. Featherstun as presiding elder and F. M. Keen continued as pastor for 1901. Stewards at Magnolia were W. C. Vaught, G. W. Robertson, W. B. Vaughn, J. E. Norwood, and T. B. Lampton; trustees were W. M. Wroten, T. C. Simmons, C. C. Gibson, D. F. Vaughn, and W. M. Lampton. L. L. Lampton was superintendent of the Sunday School and W. B. Vaughn was president of the Epworth League, as well as secretary of the church conference.

The salary of the pastor in 1901 was set at the sum of $1013, of which amount Magnolia took $848, Osyka $135, and Stevens Mill, an unorganized preaching place, $30.

The following members were received by F. M. Keen during his two-year pastorate at Magnolia:

By certificate—E. W. Reid, T. H. McGowen, Mrs. Angie Pierce, Thomas R. Ratliff, Mrs. Beulah May Ratliff, John M. Zachary, Miss Joe Willie Moore, Mrs. Mary Hubbard, Mrs. Maggie Copes, Mrs. J. B. Gatlin.

On profession of faith—Miss Grace Brisbane, Robert Arthur Brisbane, John Wesley Brisbane, Thomas Oliver Simmons, Lucy Prescott Doyle, Rosa May Bridewell, Edith Lenoir Greenlaw, Ethel Lenoir Greenlaw, Hilda Sandell, Annie Lee Knowles, Annie S. Zachary, Eliza Holmes, Vivian Cook Breem, Fred M. Hoke, Jasper M. Coney, Cabie Kornrumph, Chauncey Daniels, Mabel McGowan Camette, Hollis Ford, Charles Reabold, Mary J. Cook, Emma Jenkins, Julia Buck, Clara V. Simmons, Sarah C. Richmond, and Melissa Bridewell.

Mr. Keen had been a chaplain in the Spanish American War before coming to Magnolia and from this pastorate he transferred to Arkansas, where he died a few years later. He was a vigorous and aggressive pastor and was best known as a song leader.

During their stay in Magnolia the Keen family lived the first year in the home at 115 East Bay street and the

second year they lived at 425 North Prewett, both rented houses, since the church had no parsonage.

The Pastorate of Rev. B. F. Lewis

Benjamin Franklin Lewis was pastor in 1902-03; he was then forty years of age and had been a member of the Conference for some twenty years. Mr. Lewis had married some years before coming to Magnolia Miss Mary Otken, daughter of Dr. C. H. Otken, well-known minister and educator of Summit. Mrs. Lewis was for many years an officer in the Conference Womans Society, attending fifty consecutive meetings of that organization and serving as president for at least eight years. The following note to the *Advocate* under date of November 27, 1902, tells something of the work here:

"Dear Dr. Boswell:

Our ladies of Magnolia under the auspices of the Womans Home Mission Society have just packed a box for the Orphans Home at Water Valley, valued at over $100. We expect to have it on hand for Thanksgiving.

Yours, B. F. Lewis."

Since 1894 the charge had consisted of Magnolia and Osyka, Muddy Springs having been placed with Whitestown or Fernwood. In the fall of 1902 the church at Osyka was set apart to be served by Rev. J. W. Sandell and Magnolia for the first time became a station. The report to the next Annual Conference, in 1903, reveals that the Magnolia church had one hundred and seventy-four members, a church valued at $6000, but no parsonage. The pastor's salary was $1000, and the total amount raised was a little more than $1500.

The Lewis family lived in a rented house on East Railroad Avenue, next to the present Leslie Lenoir home, for the two years they were in Magnolia.

The Magnolia cotton mill began its long and interesting

career in 1902. Its presence and personnel have affected the church life in Magnolia a great deal. During his pastorate of two years Rev. B. F. Lewis received the following persons in the Magnolia church by certificate:

Mrs. Mary Otken Lewis, Mrs. Sophia Stevens, Miss Willie Davis Stevens, C. Lamar Davis, R. H. Lambright, William H. Morse, Davis B. McDougall, Mrs. Maude McDougall, Miss Cora E. Lampton, J. L. Saunders, Jefferson Guy, Mrs. N. M. Moye, Mrs. Mary Bruce, Mrs. Emma Butler, T. C. Simmons, Mrs. Fidelia Sample, Miss Ada Sample, Mrs. Mary E. Ball, Miss Effie Ball, Miss Alma Ball, Miss Minnie Ball.

There were no additions during the two years on profession of faith.

Nearly ten years after leaving Magnolia, while pastor at Columbia, Rev. B. F. Lewis was secretary of the Seashore District Conference at which the writer was given license to preach and his name appears on that license. Brother Lewis was twice pastor at Canton and also pastor at Capitol Street, Columbia, Crystal Springs, and Hazlehurst, and for the last fifteen years of his life he was the capable and efficient superintendent of the Methodist Home in Jackson.

In later years Mrs. Lewis was Historian for the Mississippi Womans Conference, was a member of the Sesqui-Centennial Commission of the Mississippi Conference, and was quite active until her death in the collection and preservation of Methodist history. The Golden Jubilee volume of Womans Work in this Conference was written by Mrs. Lewis in 1928.

Pastorate of Rev. M. L. Burton

Martin Luther Burton, a native of Jasper county, succeeded B. F. Lewis as pastor for 1904-05. He had married Miss Lucy Elizabeth Redus of Hazlehurst, a fine Presbyterian lady who was an excellent mistress of the parsonage

in which they lived until his retirement in 1926. After leaving Magnolia Mr. Burton held several places of responsibility, including the office of presiding elder of the Seashore, Jackson, and Meridian Districts. He was the leader of the delegation to the General Conference of 1922 and was chairman of the Board of Trustees of Millsaps College.

The Burtons lived in the house on East Railroad avenue the first part of the year 1904 until the building of a new parsonage next door to the church. The movement for a new parsonage was led by L. L. Lampton and Mrs. G. W. Robertson. It was valued at $3500 and there was a debt of $350 at the close of the year. In 1906, the first year that J. G. Galloway was pastor, the debt on the parsonage was paid. It stood on this spot for twenty-five years, housing the families of M. L. Burton, J. G. Galloway, H. B. Watkins, John A. Moore, N. B. Harmon, J. E. Gray, Claude P. Jones, T. B. Cottrell, and John D. Ellis.

Lucius L. Lampton was superintendent of the church school during the pastorate of Rev. M. L. Burton.

More than fifty persons came into the Magnolia church the first year of Brother Burton's pastorate:

By certificate—William Reed, Mrs. Sarah Reed, Miss Lula Reed, Miss Ida Reed, W. W. Lambright, Mrs. M. L. Burton, Chaffin Burton, Miss Ida Jones, Mrs. Bertha S. Turner, Mrs. Martha Hornberger, Mrs. Jennie P. Kinnebrew, Calvin J. Lard, Mrs. Mary Lard, Miss Lida Lard, Miss Birdie Lard, W. L. Rhymes, Mary Tillman, Erasmus King, Erasmus Reed, Mrs. S. A. Lambright, Mary King, Alma Turner, Mrs. A. G. Parker, Mrs. Mary M. Cole, J. H. Steifel, Mrs. L. A. Steifel, Clarence Steifel, Elizabeth Lewis Cutrer, Thomas J. Truett, W. M. Dickerson, Mrs. Emma Dickerson, Leslie Dickerson, Harvey J. Vest, Mrs. E. E. Chapman, Mrs. Jennie Jordan, Jacob Hornberger, Mrs. Mattie Magee, Miss Pearl Magee, Miss Mabel Magee, Miss Sally Perry, Johnson Perry, William Perry, Miss Lillie Perry, Miss Fannie Perry.

On profession of faith—Walter Dickerson, Miss Estha Gadberry, E. R. Morrison, Toney Williams, Miss Fanella Cutrer, Miss Laura G. Vaughn, Miss Della Vaughn, Miss Lucia Jane Lampton, Miss Ouida Victoria Lampton.

The last-named members came into the church on October 16, 1904, the same day on which the writer took the vows of the church at New Prospect campground in Jackson county.

During his second year, with Rev. T. W. Adams as his presiding elder, Rev. M. L. Burton received the following into the church:

By certificate—Miss Florence Grogan, Miss Mollie Tucker, Mrs. Mamie Felder, Vernon Y. Felder, Sallie H. Boyce, Irene Boyce, Mrs. Penny Wallace, Kimball Wallace, Wren Wallace, Clinton Wallace, Mrs. Fannie B. Alford, Mrs. N. D. Stafford, Miss Alice Stafford, Miss Mattie Stafford, Miss Ella Stafford.

On profession of faith—Carlotta Delia Rabb, Babington Lampton, Nannie Natalie Gibson, Nora Dickerson, Ellen Loch, Sarah Elizabeth Loch, Nellie Sarah Guy, Lula Estelle Lenoir, Rosa Byrd, May Byrd, Leila Letha Martin, and Alton Alford.

The last yellow fever epidemic swept over South Mississippi in the summer and fall of 1905. Millsaps College delayed its opening until November 1 on account of yellow fever and other schools probably did the same. The most serious outbreak took place at the small town of Hamburg in Franklin county, where sixty-three persons had yellow fever and fifteen of them died. There is no record of any yellow fever at Magnolia.

Pastorate of Rev. James G. Galloway

When M. L. Burton was placed on the Seashore District by the Annual Conference of 1905 his successor at Magnolia was Rev. James George Galloway, a younger brother of Bishop Charles B. Galloway, and a cousin

of George H. Galloway, a former pastor here. He and his wife, the former Lula McEachern, had no children but they took their whole congregation into their affections and rendered a very fine type of personal service.

Iddo W. Lampton was superintendent of the church school in 1906.

In spite of the fact that his predecessor had received seventy-five persons into the church in two years Brother Galloway added the names of seventeen persons to the roll of membership during his first year:

By certificate—Mrs. Lula Galloway, Mrs. Laura Prewitt, Mrs. J. W. Sandell, Mrs. May Terrell, Mrs. Edna Comfort, Mrs. Josephine Hinson, O. Z. Thoms, Mrs. L. C. Thoms, David Thoms, Jamie Thoms, Mrs. M. A. Dickey, Mrs. Mary Fridge, Robert M. Jones.

On profession of faith—O. D. Fridge, John Lamkin, Mary Etta Richmond, Fred Richard Coney.

T. W. Adams, a former pastor, was again presiding elder in 1907. Reports to Annual Conference at the end of the year indicated that more than five hundred dollars had been paid on the parsonage to relieve a debt. It was now valued at $5000.

Officials for 1907 were:

W. M. Lampton, J. M. Zachary, W. C. Vaught, I. W. Lampton, T. B. Lampton, L. L. Lampton, E. W. Reid, H. J. Vest, L. S. Felder, J. H. Steifle, D. F. Vaughn, J. A. Brisbane, T. C. Simmons, and Dr. W. M. Wroten. J. A. Brisbane was superintendent of the church school.

The senior Epworth League and the Womans Foreign Missionary Society had apparently suspended activities but there was a Junior League of twenty-five members and the Womans Home Mission Society had thirty members and raised more than two hundred dollars during the year.

Members received during 1907:

By certificate—Mrs. Mattie Magee, Miss Pearl Magee, Miss Mable Magee, J. C. Douglas, Mrs. Annie Douglas, Miss Lucie Vaughn, Miss Carrie Crawford, H. C. Moore, Mrs. H. C. Moore, Miss Essie Moore, Miss Ora Nell Moore, Thomas K. Boggan, H. S. McClesky, Mrs. Rita McClesky, Miss Jennie Lou Gates, Charles B. Galloway, Mrs. T. K. Boggan, Edward H. Cutrer, Mrs. M. L. Cutrer, Miss Maud Cutrer, Miss Sue Cutrer, Miss Jeanette Cutrer.

On profession of faith—Newell Lee Milton, Charles S. Jeffers.

Two members of the Magnolia church were in Methodist colleges in the 1907-08 session: John W. Loch at Millsaps College and Miss Willie Davis Stevens at Whitworth College. E. H. Cutrer and H. C. Moore were added to the official board for 1908. Rev. George H. Thompson was presiding elder for that year only. He was one of the strongest preachers in the Conference and magnified the office of presiding elder.

In 1908 Rev. J. G. Galloway received the following members:

By certificate—J. F. Holmes, Mrs. Jessie Holmes, Clifton Holmes, Benjamin F. Goza, Mrs. Helen Goza, Joseph Harmon Goza, D. T. Stanton, Hiram H. Goza, Mrs. Emma Goza, Hugh Goza, John Goza, Mary Goza, Rev. H. S. Westbrook, Mrs. H. S. Westbrook, M. D. Webb, Mrs. M. D. Webb, Miss Lucy Webb, Prof. Wm. B. Stark, Mrs. S. B. Stevens, Lamar Stevens, Edith Stevens.

On profession of faith—Mary Margie Boyce, W. Otis Gordon, Mrs. Emma King, Leila Letha Martin.

The coming of Rev. H. S. Westbrook to Magnolia was occasioned by a desire on the part of the Methodists of Magnolia to make some provision for preaching in South Magnolia, where a good many people were Methodists. At the ensuing Annual Conference Brother Westbrook

went into the regular ministry and was appointed to another pastoral charge.

B. F. Goza, who had recently come to Magnolia from Brookhaven, was elected the first charge lay leader for the Magnolia church on August 3, 1908.

Officers for the Womans Home Mission Society for 1909 were elected in the fall of 1908 as follows: President, Mrs. Lou Edgar; First vice-president, Mrs. Amanda Gatlin; Second vice-president, Mrs. J. G. Galloway; Third vice-president, Mrs. E. H. Cutrer; Recording secretary, Mrs. J. E. Norwood; Corresponding secretary, Mrs. Fannie Ford; Agent for "Our Homes," Mrs. E. W. Reid.

Rev. J. G. Galloway began his fourth year as pastor with a new presiding elder, Rev. J. T. Leggett. Iddo W. Lampton was superintendent of the Sunday School but on February 2, 1909, he resigned and H. H. Goza was elected in his place. L. S. Felder, B. F. Goza, and H. C. Moore were elected delegates to District Conference.

Twenty-five persons were received during the year into church membership:

By certificate—T. J. Vaught, Mrs. Lillian Vaught, Mrs. Jennie Lou Vaughn, W. G. Watson, Dr. W. S. Lampton, D. C. Easley, Mrs. Alice Easley, Thomas Skehan, Thomas Skehan, Jr., Charles Skehan, Julia M. Skehan, Purney Skehan, Graham Lawson, Mrs. A. E. Lawson, Robert Lawson, Mrs. Isla May Simpson, Earl Easley.

By vows—Misses Mildred Thoms, Myrl Fridge, Ardis Robertson, Camille Alford, and Messers. Iddo W. Lampton, Jr., and B. Frank Goza.

The following members of the Magnolia church were in college in 1909:

David Thoms, Millsaps; Willie Davis Stevens, Ora Nell Moore, Whitworth; Lucile Lampton, Belmont; Ellen Lampton, Randolph-Macon.

On Sunday, December 5, 1909, Mrs. Amanda H. Gatlin presented to the church the communion cloths that are still in possession of the church. She had been a member of the church at that time for 52 years.

Pastorate of Rev. H. B. Watkins

Rev. J. G. Galloway left Magnolia in the fall of 1909 and Rev. Herbert Brown Watkins took his place and came to Magnolia with his wife, the former Alma Purvis, and their two small daughters, Georgia Mae and Martha Purvis.

Rev. John A. B. Jones, a former pastor and former presiding elder, and a resident of Magnolia since his retirement five years before, died on January 13, 1910. He was buried in Port Gibson. Mrs. John A. B. Jones continued to make her home in Magnolia until her death in 1926.

The following came into the Magnolia church in 1910:

By certificate—Mrs. Herbert Watkins, Mrs. Mary W. Nunnery, Mrs. Florence Milton, George B. Moore, Miss Florence Grogan, Dudley Milton, Mrs. V. V. Currie, Miss Emma Boyce, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Hastings, Rev. P. H. Harper, Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Summers, Walter L. Brock, and H. H. Perritt.

On profession of faith—Miss Gladys Huff, Curtis Holmes, Miss Mattie Watts, Miss Irene Watts, J. W. Greenlee, Miss Dora Berryhill, Miss Etta Taylor, Will Adair, Gabriel Skeahan, Walter Skeahan, Eva Greenlee, Miss Mabel Boyce, Otis Taylor, Miss Ida Belle Goza, Miss Winnie Berryhill, L. M. Brumfield, Willard Magee, Miss Esther Hastings, Miss Hazel Guy, Percy Simmons, Donald Simons, Clarence Simmons, Aubrey Ford, Jo Jean Miller, Jean Lampton, Harvey Smith, Jewel Pierce, Eddie Sparkman, Ray Taylor, Lovie Conerly, Edwin Gill, Janie Huff, Helen and Wilma Vaughn.

Most of these new members came into the church as the result of a revival held by Rev. D. E. Kelly, with Rev.

C. N. Guice as song leader. In the list were two local preachers, P. H. Harper and W. B. Summers.

T. B. Lampton was elected lay leader in 1910 and J. E. Norwood a steward. The salary of the pastor was increased from $1200 to $1400. The Womans Foreign Missionary Society was reorganized during the year with twenty-seven members and raised for missionary purposes the amazing sum of $1,011.65. Mrs. C. L. Lampton was the president. The Womans Home Mission Society with thirty members raised $805.06.

District Conference met this year at Prentiss on June 8, 1910. H. B. Watkins, pastor of the Magnolia church was elected secretary; B. F. Goza represented the local congregation at District Conference and was elected a delegate to Annual Conference. Among those recommended for admission into the Conference was John Lloyd Decell, supply pastor at Osyka.

In October, 1910, the pastor of the Magnolia church wrote to the *Advocate* an account of a revival in Magnolia and other matters of interest:

"Our delightful year's work with these people has culminated in a gracious revival which has gladdened our hearts and strengthened our faith. For ten days Brothers D. E. Kelly and C. N. Guice . . . were with us. . . . The Sunday following the meeting was one of the happiest I have ever spent. Our Sunday School was large and enthusiastic. The church was crowded at eleven o'clock when I received twenty-eight into the church, eighteen of whom were boys and young men. . . . The congregation in that service gave $151 as their Work Day contribution to the Orphan's Home. This, with our contribution to the building fund and our regular monthly contribution will make $650 we shall have given the Home this year. . . . I had the pleasure to succeed the Rev. J. G. Galloway here, who, with his devoted, consecrated wife, has left impressions for good never to be accurately measured. We are unusually fortunate in having the families of so many preachers here."

Living in Magnolia at that time, in addition to the pastor and his family, were Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Sandell, Mrs. W. M. Stevens and her children, Mrs. John A. B. Jones, and Mrs. Edward F. Edgar.

The year 1911 began under favorable conditions. Only seventeen persons were received during the year:

Hallie Guy, J. Perry Drake, Mrs. Monroe Connerly, Dan Martin, W. M. Lacy, Mrs. Bettie Lacy, Mrs. Pacquinette, Mrs. Counsel, Mrs. Berryhill, Miss Louella Berryhill, Miss Mary Brooke, and Rev. H. C. Henderson by certificate; Monroe Connerly, Mrs. Dan Martin, Gladys Lenoir, Lillie Kate Tillman, and Ed Dickerson by vows.

J. Perry Drake was a son of the late Rev. James Perry Drake. Hodgie Clayton Henderson was superintendent of the local high school. He was a great-grandson of Rev. John Ford of Sandy Hook.

The District Conference for 1911 met at Osyka, J. L. Decell, pastor. L. S. Felder, T. B. Lampton, and B. F. Goza were the elected delegates from Magnolia. Mr. Goza was again elected a delegate to Annual Conference. Collye Wellman Alford of the Holmesville church was licensed to preach.

The Epworth League of the Magnolia church was reorganized this year. The following officers were elected: Miss Willie Davis Stevens, president; Miss Gladys Huff, Miss Clara Simmons, and Lamar Stevens, vice-presidents; L. M. Brumfield, secretary; Charles Skeahan, treasurer; Miss Annie Godfrey, superintendent Junior League. Thirty members were reported in each of the local units of the Womans Society and $908.70 was raised during the year. The Sunday School for 1910 had reported 237 members, the highest number on record, but this year and for some years following there was a decline, due to a decrease in population of the community.

Robert Cleveland Edwards of Pleasant Valley church,

a ministerial student at Millsaps College, was given fifty dollars by the Magnolia church.

College students from the Magnolia church in 1911 were: Misses Ora Nell Moore, Edith Stevens, and Nannie Gibson at Whitworth, Miss Essie Moore at Sullins College; and Hollis Ford at Vanderbilt University.

Each of the local societies reported to the fourth quarterly conference in writing. Mrs. R. W. Cutrer, treasurer of the Womans Foreign Society, reported thirty members and $70 raised for missions. The report of Mrs. G. W. Robertson for her group read as follows:

"The Magnolia Auxiliary of the W.H.M.S. has 30 members and has expended during the past year . . . a total of $908.79. We have gained financially over last year but have lost by death one of our most devoted and consecrated members, Mrs. A. Lou Edgar. She will ever be missed and we feel that no one can take her place in the Society which she helped to organize and of which she was so long its faithful president. Our two missionary Societies united for the Week of Prayer services and while not so well attended as should have been the services proved a benefit spiritually and we feel much good was done.

Mrs. G. W. Robertson."

At the end of 1911 Rev. H. B. Watkins went to the pastorate of the Natchez church and four years later to Central Church, Meridian, his last pastorate before his untimely death in 1921. His daughter, Martha (Mrs. T. H. Naylor), who was a very small child when the family lived here writes of Magnolia as follows:

"I have before me, from my mother's Bible, a Christmas card sent by my father, the Rev. Herbert B. Watkins, to the members of the congregation of the Magnolia Methodist Church when he was pastor there. On the front is his picture (how very young he was), and on the back is the picture of the church. Inside is the roll of the Lula Galloway Sunday School class, H. H. Goza, Superintendent. I think that my

father's message to the Magnolia Methodist Church now would be the same as on that card, 'Peace on Earth, Good Will toward Men.'

"I have often heard my father and mother say how very much they, as a young minister and his wife, were able to enjoy not only the church life of Magnolia but they were able to enter into the social and cultural life of the town. This was not always the case in some communities. There are some places where the minister and his family are lonely because the social life is not the type that a minister's family could enjoy.

"There was always a note of happiness in the voices of my parents when they spoke of their ministry in Magnolia. The friends that they loved there were friends until their deaths."

Pastorate of Rev. John A. Moore

Rev. John Alexander Moore came to Magnolia as pastor in the fall of 1911, with his wife, Mrs. Zula Weems Moore, a daughter of Rev. J. M. Weems, and five interesting children, of whom the first three, James, Vera, and John, were already members of the church.

Sixteen persons came into the Magnolia church in 1912:

Mrs. J. A. Moore and her three oldest children, James, Vera, and John came by certificate, also J. J. East and Mrs. Susan East, David C. Bell, Mrs. Viola Barnes, Miss Bettie Rushing, Mrs. Blanche Guy, M. L. Jordan, Mrs. Lizzie Jordan, Hubbard Jordan, and Misses Arvilla and Mary Jordan, and Mrs. Edith Lazar by vows.

President David Carlisle Hull of Millsaps College preached the commencement sermon of the Magnolia High School and also preached at the Methodist church at night.

Misses Edith Stevens and Nannie Gibson were at Whitworth College, Miss Babington Lampton at Randolph Macon, while Lamar Stevens and John Loch were in the law school at the University.

Rev. M. B. Sharbrough of Columbia and Rev. John C. Chambers of Ellisville conducted a revival meeting in Magnolia during the fall months.

Mrs. W. L. Brock, treasurer, reported $444.41 raised by the Womans Missionary Society, which was formed this year (1912) by combining the two former organizations.

This year more than a thousand dollars was contributed to the Methodist Orphans Home, largely through the efforts of Mr. E. W. Reid, who was the representative of the Home in the Brookhaven District.

One of the most significant actions taken in the Brookhaven district during this year is found in the following brief statement:

"The Ad Interim Licensing Committee of the Brookhaven District appointed by Rev. J. T. Leggett as per announcement met in the office of the president of Whitworth College at 8:45 A.M. September 3, 1912 for the purpose of examining N. B. Harmon, Jr., for license to preach, the committee being composed of R. Selby, J. H. Foreman, I. W. Cooper, N. B. Harmon. On motion, the applicant being a sophomore at Millsaps College, was not required to be examined on ordinary branches. After an examination according to the requirements of the Discipline, on the vote of the committee, Nolan B. Harmon, Jr., was duly licensed to preach.

R. Selby, Sec'y."

Dr. G. W. Robertson and J. W. Greenlee were added to the board of stewards. J. T. Leggett was succeeded on this district by Rev. Robert Selby. Brother Selby had a unique personality but his fidelity to duty has never been excelled.

Members received by Rev. John A. Moore in 1913 were relatively few:

Mrs. Eva Hinton Robertson, Mrs. Lillie Hinton Dye, Mrs. Lula Curtis, R. P. Smith, Mrs. C. B. Smith, W. B. Smith, Miss Lillie Belle Smith, Miss Bettie Smith, Miss Beulah

Smith, J. B. Myers, Mrs. J. B. Myers, Victor Myers, Mrs. Allie McCormick, Howard O. Hoke, Mrs. Alice Hodges Goza, Joseph Enoch Carruth, and Mrs. J. E. Carruth, were received by certificate; Mrs. Ida McFadin, Mrs. Elizabeth Hoke, Virginia Felder, and Lucius Lampton Reid were received by vows.

Membership in the Magnolia church passed the three hundred mark for the first time. Two hundred and forty two were enrolled in the Sunday School. The Womans Foreign Missionary Society had twenty members and the Womans Home Mission had thirty members. There were no Epworth Leagues.

Losses to the membership of the church at Magnolia in 1913 were heavy. Early in the year Thad B. Lampton, youngest of the Lampton brothers in Magnolia, moved to Jackson, where he spent the remaining years of his useful life. At the time of his removal he was steward, trustee, and charge lay leader. Hodgie C. Henderson, genial and capable superintendent of the Magnolia schools, a local preacher and active in every good work, entered the theological school at Vanderbilt University and did not return to Magnolia after graduation. His place was taken in the local schools by Professor Joseph Enoch Carruth, a member of the well-known Carruth family at Auburn and also a graduate of Millsaps College. He was immediately elected charge lay leader, succeeding T. B. Lampton.

Mrs. Lizzie Jordan and A. L. Lazar died this year and on October 5, 1913, Iddo W. Lampton passed away. A special committee on resolutions composed of H. C. Moore and B. F. Goza, reported in part as follows:

"It can be truly said that to his faith he added virtue, knowledge, temperance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity, so that an abundant entrance was ministered unto him in the everlasting Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ."

Additions to the membership in 1914 were larger, including:

W. L. Smith, Mrs. W. L. Smith, Mrs. Amazon Chisholm, Ernest Chisholm, Margie Chisholm, and Mrs. Jennie Rushing, by certificate, and Wilbur Curtis, Allie Martin, Frances Felder, Christabel Smith, Dorothy Moore, Lena Goza, Frank Martin, Lewis Wesley Cutrer (now mayor of Houston, Texas), Alva Lamkin, James McCormick, Gordon Curtis, James Lamkin, Phillip McCormick, Louise Moore, Dorothy Lacy, Dwight Felder, Verna Felder, Lamar Oscar Felder, Icy Josephine Chisholm, Carlton Martin Cook, Willie Felder, Basil Martin, Felix Monroe Martin, Elena Cutrer, Lula Galloway Felder, Elizabeth Lacy, Miss Bennie Butler, and Charles Curtis by vows.

Most of these came during a revival held by Rev. J. A. Bowen of Birmingham, father of Dr. C. A. Bowen of Nashville.

District Conference was held this year at Wesson May 5-7, 1914, with Robert Selby presiding and John A. Moore, pastor at Magnolia serving as secretary. L. S. Felder and B. F. Goza represented the Magnolia church and C. C. Goza the Meadville charge.

H. H. Goza was the efficient superintendent of the Sunday School at this time. Misses Nancy Gibson and Babington Lampton were at Whitworth College, Miss Gladys Huff at Columbus, Miss Ouida Lampton at Belcourt Seminary in Washington City, Miss Ione Dickinson at a business college in Atlanta, and Clarence and Donald Simmons were at the University.

The Annual Conference of 1914, meeting at Columbia, returned both the pastor and presiding elder to Magnolia. E. W. Reid was superintendent of the Sunday School. At the end of the year Professor J. E. Carruth became superintendent. Rev. W. B. Summer, a faithful and loyal local preacher, and his wife moved away this year.

Members received during 1915:

Reed Lewis Ricks, Grover Cleveland Phurrough, and Minnie Allie Berryhill by vows, and Mr. and Mrs. W. A. P. Summer, Mr. and Mrs. Madison Holmes, Miss Altie Holmes, Wendell Holmes, and Dorothy Holmes, Misses Fay and Babington Lampton, Mrs. Laura Brown, Miss Olive Prewitt, W. E. Adair, and Mrs. Ella Briley by certificate.

Rev. John W. Moore, now pastor of the First Methodist church, Brookhaven, gives interesting reminiscences of their years in Magnolia:

"The four years of my father's ministry in Magnolia (1912-15) were years of great events locally and abroad. In the first of those years the great ship, *Titanic*, sank on her maiden voyage, carrying hundreds down to death. Allusions to the tragedy were frequent in ordinary conversation and in sermon and prayer at church and Sunday School services. Two years later the First World War began, followed by those events which were to drag America into the conflict.

"Meantime on the local scene Rev. John Wesley Sandell and Mr. Iddo Lampton died; each bringing in his own way a sense of loss to the church and to the parsonage family. Brother Sandell's passing, at the age of eighty-four years, marked the initiation of the younger members of our family to an eye-witness knowledge of death. We were there by the insistent invitation of the dying patriarch and the recollection of his last moments and the feeling of his feeble hand upon our heads as we knelt at his bedside still breathes a benediction upon us. The passing of 'Mr. Iddo' shocked us! Somehow we felt that such people as he represented were permanent fixtures in the church and community. Certainly his passing was a loss to both.

"The following recollections are listed, as they are lodged in the writer's memory, without chronological order or priority of importance: The 'Little Missionary Society,' meeting in the drowsy hours of Sunday afternoon. The whistle and roar of the 'Cannon Ball Express' passing through. Selling magnolias to passengers on the trains. Mr. Charlie Loch playing his cornet at church. Mr. B. F. Goza making a stirring plea for righteousness in the community 'I would give my right arm to see all our people converted.' Mrs. Fannie Ford's prophecies and prayers for the future of the boys in her

Sunday School Class 'Missionaries, preachers, singers, etc.' Dan Martin, the janitor, walking doggedly along on his peg leg as he cleaned the church, or standing majestically as he rang the bell for Sunday service. His son, Basil, and daughter, Allie, who were schoolmates of ours. Mrs. Lucius Lampton taking our gang of boys home with her to Sunday dinner. Sitting in church with Aubrey Ford, Percy Simmons, and Frank Goza and reading on the Sunday School register the names of people whose initials spelled some word: J. A. Moore, L. E. Gill, etc. Sunday School picnics on Little Tangipahoa. The feeling that our little world was just about perfect."

Pastorate of Rev. N. B. Harmon

Rev. Robert Selby in the early part of 1916 was appointed Commissioner of Emory University to raise money to build the Lamar School of Law building. Dr. Inman W. Cooper combined the duties of president of Whitworth College and presiding elder of the Brookhaven district for the remainder of the year.

The new pastor at Magnolia, Rev. Nolan Bailey Harmon, came from the pastorate of the Gulfport church to Magnolia. Mrs. Harmon, the former Juliet Howe, was a woman of great ability and was a niece and namesake of Mrs. John A. B. Jones, a member of the Magnolia church. Two of the Harmon sons were already through college. Nolan B. Harmon, Jr., was now a student in the Candler School of Theology. Robert Howe Harmon, the second son, was teaching at Moss Point. The two younger sons, John Wesley Harmon and Alexander Peale Harmon, were in the home.

The death of Mrs. Lucinda Barron Prewitt in January, 1916, took from the church the last remaining member who had come into the church before the Civil War. She had joined the church in 1860.

Officials for 1916 were as follows: Stewards—W. M. Lampton, B. F. Goza, E. W. Reid, H. C. Moore, G. W.

Robertson, L. S. Felder, H. H. Goza, R. A. Brisbane, and Hollis J. Ford, trustees—B. F. Goza, E. W. Reid, L. L. Lampton, W. C. Vaught, and J. M. Zachary; J. E. Carruth, superintendent of the Sunday School. Regular meetings of the Workers Council were held and a Teacher Training Class was held during the year. An Epworth League was organized this year under the leadership of Mrs. Edgar M. Lazar, with eleven members and the following officers: President, Carroll Moore; First vice-president, Peale Harmon; Second vice-president, Mary Goza; Third vice-president, Altee Holmes; Fourth vice-president, Jane Huff.

Rev. John Tillery Lewis of the North Mississippi Conference conducted a revival in Magnolia and Rev. George D. Anders of Fernwood did the preaching in a revival in South Magnolia.

Students in college from the Magnolia church were Peale Harmon and John Goza at Millsaps, Mary Goza and Altee Holmes at Columbus, Jo Jean Miller and Carroll Moore at A. and M., Miss Janie Huff at the Womans College at Hattiesburg, and Nolan Harmon was at Emory.

Rev. N. B. Harmon was enthusiastic about Sunday School work and instituted a number of forward steps in that field. A Teachers Training Class, which he organized, held its first meeting on Tuesday night, May 23, 1916, and planned to meet on the first and third Tuesday nights. Since this was possibly the first training class in Magnolia we are fortunate to have the names of its members: Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Carruth, Mrs. E. M. Lazar, Mrs. H. H. Goza, B. F. Goza, Mrs. R. W. Cutrer, Mrs. Jerome Ford, Miss Gladys Huff, and Mrs. N. B. Harmon. This was probably the main teaching force of the Magnolia Sunday School.

Members received by Rev. N. B. Harmon in 1916 were as follows:

By certificate, Charles E. Davis, Mrs. J. T. Conerly, Mrs. Eleanor Sanders, Henry Rich, Miss Norma J. Brumfield, Mrs. Ruby Perry Vest, Mrs. K. G. Price, William Francis Cheevers, Miss Mabel McIntosh, O. C. Stamps, Mrs. O. C. Stamps, Joe Stamps, Miss Mabel Stamps, and Jesse Stamps; by vows, Mrs. Ilma Milton Brock, Ruth Ilma Brock, Lillian Wroten Vaught, William Sherwood Lampton, John Eugene Berryhill, Annie Elizabeth Lamkin, Perry Curtis, Mabel Gertrude Prewitt, Blanche Hubbard, Lucy Beatrice Lampton, Perla May Powell, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Bales, Ida Chisholm, Kathleen King, Sandy Kelly Jackson, and Bettie Rushing.

At the Annual Conference of 1916 J. T. Leggett returned to the Brookhaven district for his second quadrennium as presiding elder. N. B. Harmon continued as pastor. Two new names appeared on the list of stewards: H. J. Vest and D. M. Holmes. J. E. Carruth was still in charge of the Magnolia Sunday School and H. C. Moore was superintendent of a mission Sunday School in South Magnolia.

In the spring of 1917 Rev. J. L. Neill, Conference Sunday School Secretary, visited Magnolia in the interest of his work. A sweeping revival was held in August of this year by Rev. W. B. Hogg.

Three persons were received by certificate this year:

Mr. and Mrs. Royal V. Elliott and Mrs. Bessie Kornrumph. Misses Ellis Robertson, Lorena Hubbard, Nellie McLaughlin, and Mary McLaughlin, Mrs. Ella McLaughlin, Milton Lee Brock, Carroll Warren Moore, Oliver McFadden, William Brown, Miss Audrey Moore, Melvin Hallie Guy, Mrs. Maud Greenlee, Miss Erma Greenlee, Lucy Lampton Lee, and Martha Lucy Mackie, were received by vows.

Professor J. E. Carruth moved from the community in the fall of 1917 and was succeeded as church school superintendent by H. H. Goza. Peale Harmon, and John Goza were in college at Millsaps; Misses Mary Goza, Altie Holmes, and Ardis Robertson were students at the

Industrial Institute and College, now Mississippi State College for Women, at Columbus.

The report of the Womans Missionary Society was given by Mrs. W. L. Brock, treasurer, to the fourth quarterly conference:

Dues	$55.15
Conference Expense Fund	16.75
Week of Prayer	18.50
Home Pledge	20.80
Bible Woman	60.00
Wesley House	5.00
	$176.20
Local Work	233.15
Total	$409.35

One of the first things accomplished in 1918 was the reorganization of an Epworth League under the supervision of Mrs. N. B. Harmon. Officers were as follows: President, Aubrey Ford; vice-president, Lewis Wesley Cutrer; secretary and treasurer, Ruth Brock; chairman devotional committee, Ida Belle Goza; chairman recreation committee, Alva Lamkin; chairman missionary committee, Lorena Hubbard.

H. C. Moore continued his fine work as superintendent of the Sunday School in South Magnolia and Rev. C. C. Gibson of Summit was secured by the presiding elder to preach regularly at the union church in the village. Rev. L. L. Felder of Texas, a former resident of Pike county in the vicinity of Topisaw campground, held a revival at Magnolia in the early fall.

A virulent type of influenza swept over the whole country in the fall of 1918, closing the churches for at least three Sundays and disrupting all church activity.

Members received by Rev. N. B. Harmon in 1918, his last year as pastor, were:

By certificate, Mrs. M. P. Carroll, Maxie Carroll, Malcolm Carroll, Sidney Guy, Miss Ella Harper, John W. Magee, Mrs. Mary E. Magee, John Elmer Magee, Pearl W. Magee, Mamie E. Magee, M. J. Urban, Mrs. M. O. Pickering, Audrey Pickering, Doris Baily Brown, and Mrs. M. J. Urban; on profession of faith, R. M. Taylor and Mrs. R. M. Taylor, Christine McCormick, Harry Kornrumpf.

In October, 1918, William C. Vaught passed away to the great loss of the city, county, and church. The quarterly conference in appropriate resolutions said, "In the death of Brother Vaught our church has sustained the loss of one of its most faithful, conscientious members; one who feared God, loved his fellow-men, his church, and, whenever health permitted was a regular attendant upon the services of the sanctuary."

A special service was held in the Magnolia church in July with the following program:

FLAG SERVICE
Methodist Church,
July 28, 1918.

Song—America ..... Congregation
Presentation of Flag ..... S. S. Class of Mrs. Edgar Lazar
Prayer
Song to the Flag ..... Choir
Scripture Lesson: 91st Psalm.
Song: "Battle Hymn of the Republic"
Solo—"God Be With Our Boys Tonight"—Miss Altie Holmes
Address ..... By Dr. Cooper
Song—"Star Spangled Banner" .... By Congregation
Doxology.
Benediction.

Mrs. N. B. Harmon, wife of the pastor, read an original poem entitled "My Soldier Boy." The following members of the local congregation were listed as being in some branch of the armed services: Lamar Stevens, John W. Brisbane, Eddie B. Sparkman, Carroll W. Moore, Hollis

J. Ford, Alfred Lamkin, Nolan B. Harmon, Jr., Joe J. Miller, Millard C. Magee, T. Oliver Simmons, Clarence Simmons, William J. Brown, William Perry, Wilfred Case, Ernest Chisholm.

How many others went into service after July, 1918, is not a matter of record. John R. Goza was among the number.

Armistice Day came on November 11, 1918. There was great rejoicing everywhere and services of special thanksgiving were held in many churches. The Annual Conference met in Centenary church, McComb, December 4, Bishop John C. Kilgo presiding. Rev. Nolan B. Harmon was transferred to the Crawford Street church, Vicksburg, and Rev. John Early Gray was appointed pastor at Magnolia.

Pastorate of Rev. J. E. Gray

The new pastor came to Magnolia from Logtown. He brought with him his wife, the former Miss Maude Day of Liberty, and their daughter, Mamie Mildred, and his wife's sister, Mamie Day.

The outstanding responsibility before all Methodist churches in America in 1919 was the Missionary Centenary, which commemorated the beginnings of Methodist missions in 1819. The quota for the Magnolia church is not now a matter of record but total pledges from this church were $12,282.00 and payments during the current year were $2,867 and in later years $8,590, or a total of $11,451 from the Magnolia church.

Rev. J. E. Gray received a large number of members during 1919:

Mrs. Lilla M. Caldwell, Maurice Day, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Faust, Hattie Faust, Annie Faust, Mrs. Maude Gray, Miss Mamie Gray, Miss Mamie Ione Day, Mrs. Iddo W. Lampton, Iddo W. Lampton, Jr., Misses Fay Lampton and Gene Lampton, Katie McIntyre, Mary McIntyre, John McIntyre,

A. T. Morton, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Purtle, Henry Purtle, Rufus Purtle, Janie Purtle, Annie Purtle, E. D. Safford, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Whittington, all by certificate, also Ludie Fay Brown, Doris Brown, Mary Kate Brown, Mrs. Lottie Dunbar, Mrs. Mary Prescott, Misses Emily and Susie V. Powell, Mrs. Robert H. Hall, W. H. Campbell, Jessie Mae Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rushing, W. C. Shaw and two daughters on profession of faith.

One of the treasured possessions of the Womans Society is a letter written from Changchow, China, by Miss Ida Anderson on August 23, 1919, and addressed to Mrs. Jerome Ford, Magnolia, Mississippi, U.S.A.:

"Dear Mrs. Ford,

"Mrs. Howell has sent me the money for your special, for which we are very grateful. Our kindergarten work has been fine for the spring term. Miss Koo has visited in the homes of the children, and has a mother's meeting. At her Sunday School Kindergarten many of the mothers and other relatives come and stay over to the preaching service. . . . They all love Miss Koo because she loves their children whom she teaches in the morning. We are glad to welcome Miss Howell to the Orient and are looking forward with much pleasure in our station to a visit from her. When she returns I hope that she can visit you and tell you about our work. . . . The next time I come to America I hope to have the pleasure of visiting your society and meeting your friends socially.

"Thanking you for your letter and with greetings to the Society, I am

Yours faithfully,
Ida Anderson."

During the 1919-20 school session Mamie Gray was at Whitworth, Ardis Robertson, Mary Goza, and Myrl Fridge were at Columbus, Fay Lampton at Spartanburg, and Iddo Lampton was at Webb School at Bell Buckle, Tennessee.

E. S. Arnold was elected superintendent of the Sunday School for 1920.

The outstanding achievement in 1920 is found in the

report of Rev. J. E. Gray to the quarterly conference on July 12:

"An item worthy of record is the installation of a splendid pipe organ of which we are justly proud."

This organ was rebuilt when the new church was constructed and still serves the church in a fine way. Mrs. R. A. Brisbane began her service as organist of the Magnolia church with the new organ and has rendered efficient service through the years. Other musicians before 1920 included Mrs. Amanda H. Gatlin, Miss Lucy Zachary, Misses Ellen and Bessie Loch, Miss Clara Simmons, Mrs. E. W. Reid, and Mrs. K. G. Price.

Received in 1920:

Mrs. Tet McRaney Moore, George Berryhill, Mrs. Alice Berryhill, Mrs. D. Caston, Miss Esther Grant, Miss Julia Grant, Miss Ida Belle McDavitt, Robert W. Myers, Miss Addie Matthews, Mrs. Elizabeth Price, Mrs. M. O. Pickering, and T. J. Vaught were received by certificate during the year. Mary Katherine Berryhill, Gladys Louise Berryhill, Charles Gabriel Felder, Vernon Young Felder, Robert Earl Hubbard, Madison Holmes, Jr., William Thomas Lacy, Jessie Lucie Lampton, Claude Lampton, Jr., Robert B. Lampton, A. T. Morton, Jr., Edith McCormick, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Morris, Isaac Morris; Clarence Morris, Gladys Edith Magee, Elmira Lucile Prescott, Dina Roberta Prewitt, Alice Eugenia Prewitt.

The Brookhaven District Conference met at Magnolia, May 5-7, 1920. Rev. W. H. Lewis of Brookhaven presided until the arrival of the presiding elder, Rev. J. T. Leggett. Rev. H. M. Ellis served as secretary, Revs. W. A. Terry, H. A. Gatlin, and J. T. Weems preached during the session. Mrs. Jerome Ford was elected a delegate to Annual Conference.

During 1920 Rev. R. E. Simpson served as pastor of the South Magnolia congregation.

During the 1920-21 school year Verna Felder and

Mamie Gray were at Whitworth, Percy Simmons, Wendell Holmes, and James A. Lamkin were at the University of Mississippi, Iddo Lampton and Lampton Reid were at Webb School, Mary Goza and Altie Holmes were at what is now Mississippi State College for Women, then known as the Industrial Institute and College, and Fay Lampton was again at Converse College.

The Report of the Womans Missionary Society for 1920 read as follows:

Members	33
Dues	$ 99.50
Foreign pledge	60.00
Home pledge	25.50
Week of Prayer	42.50
Total sent Conference Treas.	242.90
Amount spent locally	288.00

In addition the Junior Missionary Society had sent twelve dollars to the Conference Treasurer and had spent ten dollars locally.

At the fourth quarterly conference on October 11, 1920, Mrs. Fannie Ford was elected superintendent of the Sunday School for 1921. At the first quarterly conference, however, she resigned and E. S. Arnold was reelected to the place he had formerly held.

At the Annual Conference of 1920 Rev. J. E. Gray was returned to the Magnolia church for the third year and Rev. H. M. Ellis was placed on the Brookhaven district. The outstanding activity of the year was the Christian Education Campaign, conducted throughout the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in order to raise money for the schools and colleges. The Magnolia church contributed more than twelve thousand dollars during the first year of the campaign and considerably more during the five years.

Members received during 1921 were:

Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Allen, C. B. Buchannan, Mrs. Ruth Dance, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Emson, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Goza, Miss Sallie Emma Goza, James Goza, E. C. Hayes, Miss Christine McCormick, Mrs. Elizabeth Seitz, Mrs. M. A. Walker, David C. Wright, Misses Cherry and May Wright by certificate, and Misses Fannie Eudora and Sidney Helen Bales, Albert Vaughn Brent, Miss Thelma Goza, Warren Guy, Jr., Mrs. Jane Garner, Miss Alice McCormick, Miss Jewel Spinks, Claude L. Lampton, and David Emmett Ward on profession of faith or vows. During his three-year pastorate Rev. J. E. Gray received 101 persons into the Magnolia church.

The fourth quarterly conference of 1921 elected three new stewards: Robert B. Lampton, who died soon after his election, Charles K. Taylor, and John A. Lamkin. The conference also passed appropriate resolutions on the death of John A. Brisbane, who had passed away on October 7, 1921.

At the ensuing Annual Conference Rev. J. E. Gray was assigned to the church at Moss Point. More than twenty years later he returned to Magnolia for a second pastorate.

Pastorate of Rev. Claude Park Jones

The new pastor was a young man, son of Rev. John R. Jones, presiding elder of the Vicksburg district. He had served only three pastorates when he came to Magnolia: Hub, Long Beach, and Fayette. He brought with him to the Magnolia parsonage his wife and small son, Claude Park, Jr. The salary of the pastor, which had risen gradually through the past five years from $1200 to $1800 was now set at $2400.

The Junior and Senior Epworth Leagues were reorganized during the first quarter of 1922 and Mrs. W. L. Brock was elected president of the latter. Robert W. Myers was elected a steward at the second quarterly conference.

At the third quarterly conference, on July 2, 1922, Robert A. Brisbane was elected superintendent of the Sunday School, a position that he held for more than twenty-five years. W. M. Lacy and C. E. Davis were elected stewards.

Members received by Rev. Claude Jones in 1922 included the following:

Jaurez Bright, Julian Buchanan, Huell Buchanan, Lorene Branigan, Elsie Curtis, Irene Coney, Mamie B. Felder, Charlie Kornrumpf, Bennie Kornrumpf, Olga Lamkin, Katherine Lacy, Charlie Myers, Wilma D. Prewitt, Earnest Prewitt, Jr., John B. Penn, J. M. Sandell, Mrs. J. M. Sandell, Evelyn Vaughn, David Vaughn, and Mrs. W. L. Jenkins all on profession of faith or vows. By certificate, Joe Dickey, W. L. Jenkins, J. E. Jenkins, Mrs. Perla H. Powell, and Mrs. Claude P. Jones.

During 1923 Mrs. J. B. Colbert, Miss Josephine Colbert, Mrs. Kate McAlpin, Miss Lettie McAlpin, were received by certificate and Miss Beatrice Luto on profession of faith, the smallest number in a quarter of a century.

In 1924 Roy Atchinson, Miss Mary Allen, Mrs. G. C. Brabham, Mr. and Mrs. Ottis Simmons, Mrs. J. J. Lee, and Miss Dora Lee were received by certificate and William B. Sanders, Jr., Lindsey Terrell Sanders, J. M. Johnson, Eleanor Dorothy Sanders, and Mrs. E. O. Smith were received by vows and Mrs. Emma C. Reynolds was received from the Presbyterian church.

At the Annual Conference of 1924 the pastor entered evangelistic work. He later served pastorates at East End, Meridian, and Biloxi, Main Street. Writing from Fort Worth, where he now lives, Rev. Claude P. Jones says of his stay in Magnolia:

"As I look in retrospect over the many years I have served my church, Magnolia stands out as one of my happiest

pastorates. I was appointed there in 1921 by Bishop McMurray, and, with my wife and three-year old son, spent three glorious years with these fine people.

"Many names on the then active register loom up in my memory—the Gozas, Lacys, Robertsons, Fords, Holmes, Brocks, Brisbanes, Norwoods, Reids and their families were in their heyday of activity; also the Lampton families were living and active, proving a valuable asset, both materially and spiritually. I remember the Magnolia church was the first in the Conference to go over the top in the Centennial offering, as well as the Superannuate Endowment. This was typical of the promptness and pride with which they met every obligation.

"No history of the Magnolia church would be complete without grateful recognition of the many years of devoted service rendered at the organ by "Miss Essie" (Brisbane)—always present, always prepared, and always willing to cooperate with her pastor.

"I thank God for the opportunity of passing that way and for the cherished memories of the love, loyalty, and friendship of the wonderful people of Magnolia."

Pastorate of Rev. H. G. Hawkins

Succeeding Rev. Claude P. Jones for 1925 was the Rev. Henry Gabriel Hawkins, who came from Woodville to Magnolia. His wife, the former Miss Annie Galloway, was a first cousin of Bishop Galloway and a cousin also of two former pastors of the Magnolia church, Messrs. G. H. Galloway and J. G. Galloway. The Hawkins had no children but a niece of Mrs. Hawkins, Miss Stella Galloway, made her home with them.

Members received during 1925 included:

Mrs. Annie Hawkins, S. E. Babington, C. K. Taylor, Sr., Mrs. Mary Bilbo, Miss Stella Galloway, Mrs. G. E. Lansing, Roy Whittington, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Goza, Mr. and Mrs. O. O. Simmons, Mrs. Pearl Lee Cabler, Mrs. Henry Kornrumpf, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Lenoir, Mrs. W. P. Page, Mrs. Adrienne H. Pevey, Mrs. George E. Covington, Mr. and Mrs. George E. Lansing, Sr., by certificate, and John W. Ainsworth,

Gwendolyn Guy, Ethel Kornrumpf, Evelyn Kelley, Lillian Lacy, Hattie Vaughn, Ida Hazel Lamkin, J. M. La France, and Lavelle McCaskill on profession of faith, with the names of Mary and John McIntyre, John Case, W. J. Guy, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Hallie Guy added in some other way.

Rev. W. H. Lewis had succeeded Rev. H. M. Ellis as presiding elder of the Brookhaven district for 1925, remaining through 1928.

At District Conference, held at Hazlehurst, Rev. H. G. Hawkins and Mr. H. H. Goza reported as follows for the Magnolia church:

"Thirty-one accessions by profession of faith. Only W.M.S. in the Brookhaven District on Honor Roll last year. Sunday School growing. Better equipment needed and a committee is working for enlargement, probably by adding a basement. Eight took certificates at Standard Training School at McComb in March. Epworth Senior and Junior Leagues reorganized. Superannuate endowment five-year quota paid in full. Last two or three years loss of about one hundred members. Also financial strength lost by death of L. L. Lampton and moving away of others, but individuals are increasing their payment and the officials expect to pay all assessments."

Early in October Dr. Inman W. Cooper passed away after nearly a quarter of a century as president of Whitworth College and Rev. H. G. Hawkins was elected to succeed him. He continued, however, in the pastorate of the Magnolia church until Annual Conference. Following his service on the Meridian District Brother Hawkins served the Natchez church as pastor, the Vicksburg District, and as pastor at Crystal Springs, after which he made his home at Canton until his death in 1939. Mrs. Hawkins still lives in Canton.

Pastorate of the Rev. T. B. Cottrell

For the next two years, 1926-27, Rev. Thomas Blunt Cottrell, was pastor of the Magnolia church. Mrs. Cottrell

was a woman of more than ordinary ability and was specially active in the Womans Missionary Society. She was at that time an officer in the Conference organization and later, from 1932 till 1935, was president of the Womans Missionary Conference.

Mrs. T. B. Cottrell, Hugh Barnette Cottrell, Mrs. B. F. Guy, Mrs. Josie McCarthy, Mrs. Kate McAlpin, Miss Lettie McAlpin, Mrs. Eugenia Pierce, Mrs. C. G. Smith, Harry Carroll Moore, Audrey Moore, Joseph Felder, and W. C. Weeks were received by Rev. T. B. Cottrell during his pastorate of two years by certificate; and Charles A. Anderson, Charles A. Anderson, Jr., and Helen Frances Vaughn were received on profession of faith.

Howard Williams held a revival in Magnolia in January, 1927. Mrs. W. M. Lacy was president of the Womans Society in 1927-28 and Miss Perla Mae Powell was president of the Epworth League. S. L. Guy and Nick F. Greener were added to the board of stewards. V. Y. Felder was charge lay leader.

After leaving Magnolia in the fall of 1927 Brother Cottrell served pastorates at Meridian, Forest, Fayette, and Quitman, where he was still active in the pastorate at the time of his death in 1936.

Pastorate of Rev. John D. Ellis

Rev. John Dunning Ellis came to Magnolia in the fall of 1927 from the pastorate of the Brandon church, bringing his wife, the former Miss Minnie Holt of Yazoo County. This was his first pastorate in the Brookhaven district, in which he was born.

The major accomplishment during the first year of his pastorate here was the building of the present parsonage. Plans for the building had been projected during the pastorate of Rev. T. B. Cottrell under the sponsorship of Lucius L. Lampton and Mrs. G. W. Robertson

and actual work began early in the new Conference year. In the report to the fourth quarterly conference on October 31, 1928, the pastor said:

"One enterprise which is being brought to successful conclusion is the new parsonage. It will be ready for occupancy within two weeks and will be a tribute to sagacity and zeal."

The building was completed at a cost of some $3500 and was valued at $5000. It has had numerous additions and improvements since then and still remains as a very comfortable and serviceable home for the pastor and his family.

A revival was held in May 1928, with the preaching by Rev. J. F. Campbell. A gift of $200 was made for the purchase of surgical equipment in Dr. Bryant Lewis' hospital in Africa. B. M. Lawrence and T. O. Simmons, local preachers, became members of the Magnolia church. S. E. Babington was added to the board of stewards.

Rev. J. L. Decell became presiding elder for 1929, succeeding Rev. W. H. Lewis, who had served for four years. During part of his stay on the Brookhaven district Dr. Decell was also Editor of the New Orleans *Christian Advocate*.

Students from the Magnolia church were Misses Lena Goza and Frances Felder at Mississippi State College for Women; William Sanders, Hinds Junior College; Miss Ruth Brock, Sophia Newcomb College; Milton Lee Brock, Tulane University.

Mrs. Edith Lazar was president of the Womans Society in 1929.

Mr. W. M. Lampton gave this year the sum of $5,-162.00, to be divided equally between the Methodist Children's Home and the Mississippi Children's Home Finding Society.

Members received by Rev. John D. Ellis were:

Mrs. Kathryn Cutrer, Miss Emma Campbell, Miss Bessie Foster, B. F. Goza, Mrs. Thelma Goza (from the Presbyterians), Mrs. Clifton Gordon, Charles A. Hamerick, Rev. B. M. Lawrence, Mrs. B. M. Lawrence (from the Baptist Church), Alva Z. Mixon, Mrs. Eunice Mixon, Miss Charline Gertrude Martin, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Myer, Mrs. M. J. Norton, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Rawls, Louise and James Rawls, Virgil J. Robinson and Mrs. Annie Robinson, Normis and Stanford Robinson, Mrs. V. D. Simmons, Mrs. Inez R. Townsend, all by certificate.

Rev. John D. Ellis was a brilliant and scholarly man and left many friends at various churches in the Conference.

The Womans Missionary Council in 1928 planned a Church-wide observance of their Golden Jubilee in honor of the original organization in 1878. Appropriate meetings were held throughout this Conference and an excellent volume of history was prepared by Mrs. B. F. Lewis, a former member of the Magnolia church. On January 30, 1928, Mrs. Fannie R. Ford read a history of the local organization, from which the following is taken:

"This society was first organized as a 'Ladies Aid' on January 22, 1889. There were thirteen charter members and Mrs. W. M. Wroten was elected President. Rev. B. S. Raynor was pastor, and it was through his influence that this society was organized. . . . A new society . . . sprung up and was spreading its branches over mountains and valleys. . . . Magnolia Auxiliary joined its ranks September 3, 1895, with Mrs. L. L. Lampton as President.

In September, 1910, the Foreign Missionary Society was organized with Mrs. C. L. Lampton as President. . . . In 1912 our two Conference Societies united and in June the Magnolia Auxiliary followed their example . . . with Mrs. Jerome Ford as President. . . . Three names are enrolled in the Belle Bennett Book of Remembrance: Evie Vaughn, Mary Lampton, and Tenie Sandell."

Pastorate of Rev. Paul D. Hardin

Rev. Paul Douglas Hardin came to the pastorate here in the fall of 1929. He was one of the strong men of the Conference, having served previously such churches as Centenary, McComb, Main Street, Hattiesburg, and First Church, Brookhaven, as well as the Jackson and Meridian districts. He was a cultured gentleman and an effective leader in the church and Conference, representing the Mississippi Conference in the General Conference of 1914.

His son, Professor Paul D. Hardin, Jr., of Millsaps College, says of the family stay in Magnolia:

"My father, the Rev. Paul D. Hardin, preached his first sermon after his appointment to Magnolia, on Sunday, November 24, 1929. My parents, Frances, Bill, and I moved from Gulfport, and Magnolia was my father's last assignment in the active ministry. It was indeed one of his happiest. In fact we all enjoyed our new home; my mother particularly enjoyed the newness of the parsonage, only one other family having lived in it before our arrival.

"In looking through a small pastor's book that belonged to my father I have read many interesting things. For his first sermon he preached from the text: 'Whom shall I send and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I, send me.'

"The Board of Stewards included: H. H. Goza, E. W. Reid, R. A. Brisbane, D. M. Holmes, G. W. Robertson, J. R. Goza, O. O. Simmons, Mrs. C. L. Lampton, and V. Y. Felder. Mrs. E. W. Reid was president of the Missionary Society and Kathryn Lacy was president of the Epworth League.

"The pastor's salary was $2,000, and because of the depression this money I am sure was difficult to raise. The most popular wedding fee for that year was two dollars, an interesting footnote on the effects of the depression.

"There were two hundred and twenty members listed on the church roll. By most of their names there is a check mark, and as I remember my father, I am sure he probably

checked off each name as he visited the members in their homes."

Mrs. J. R. Goza was president of the Womans Society in 1930 and Miss Catherine Lacy was president of the Epworth League. Miss Lucie Lampton was president of the Hi-League, organization for intermediates.

Junior stewards for 1930 were Gabriel Felder, Paul Hardin, Jr., Robert Earl Hubbard, William Sanders, Bailey Fridge, Jr., D. M. Holmes, Jr., Banks Penn, and David Vaughn.

Mrs. J. W. Sandell, Mrs. A. L. Lazar, and Mrs. W. S. Lampton all passed away in 1930.

The complete list of church school general officers for 1931 carried the following names: R. A. Brisbane, general superintendent, John R. Goza, assistant superintendent, W. A. Hays, adult superintendent, Mrs. F. M. Lee, young peoples superintendent, Mrs. Grace Pierce, primary superintendent, and William B. Sanders, secretary and treasurer.

Mrs. E. W. Reid was president of the Womans Society in 1931 and Paul Hardin, Jr., was president of the Epworth League. Miss Helen Lampton was elected president of the League for 1932.

The General Conference of 1930 had provided for a Board of Christian Education, which was organized locally in 1931 with Mrs. F. M. Lee as the first chairman. A young womans circle was organized this year also. An Epworth League chorus was also organized with Miss Vivian Aston as director.

Rev. John C. Chambers and Rev. B. M. Hunt spent ten days in Magnolia in a revival meeting in June, 1931. Members received by Rev. Paul D. Hardin during his first year were:

Harrell Cline Cabler, Polly Jane Clarke, Bailey Fridge, Jr., Bailey Fridge, Sr., Ardis Marie Goza, Mary Kornrumpf,

Della Mae Brent, William Francis Brent, R. K. Brown, Mrs. Louise M. Brown, Barton Lampton, Albert R. Lansing, Mrs. Albert Lansing, Ouida Mixon, Mabel McCaskell, Charles K. Taylor, Jr., Frances Simmons, V. D. Simmons, Laura Mae Vaughn, Booth Vaughn, John Vaughn, and Bobbye Vaughn, on profession of faith; Helen Daughdrill, V. W. Guy, Mrs. Mary Giles Hardin, Miss Frances Hardin, Paul D. Hardin, Jr., William Giles Hardin, W. A. Hayes, Mrs. W. A. Hayes, J. A. Johnston, Peggy Lampton, William A. Bilbo, Dudley Myers, Banks Penn, Mrs. J. M. B. Penn, by certificate.

The next year, 1931, was not quite up to the level of this year in the reception of new members:

Martha Lacy, Lemmelia L. Goza, Robert J. Prescott, Jr., Miss Ellis Prescott, William Ernest Case, on profession of faith; and Mrs. Clifton Gordon, Mrs. Sadie L. Sharbrough, Mrs. J. N. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Lampton, Miss Helen Lampton, Percy and Bob Lampton, Miss Milton Hayes, and Iddo L. Alford by certificate.

The last year of Brother Hardin's pastorate, 1932, the following were received:

Mrs. Phil O. Burnson, Mrs. J. Y. Prescott, Jr., Mrs. Iddo W. Lampton, Mrs. Virginia Powell Clarke, Mrs. Grace McDavitt Coney, Iddo L. Alford, Mrs. Helen S. Weathersby, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Wright, Doris Lane Wright, by certificate and J. E. Pierce, Jr., E. B. Freeman, Walter Maxwell Lacy, John Reid Goza, Jr., on profession of faith.

After forty years in the active ministry Brother Hardin retired at the Annual Conference of 1932, following his three-year pastorate in Magnolia. He was greatly beloved in every pastorate.

Pastorate of Rev. William B. Jones

Rev. William Burwell Jones came as pastor in the fall of 1932 from the pastorate of the church at Philadelphia. One of Brother Jones' sons, Rev. George H. Jones, was

already in the ministry in 1935, but the names of the others appear on the Magnolia church roll for the next three years: Miss Grace Jones, Dr. Ransom J. Jones, Henry M. Jones, and Warren C. Jones. In addition to his own family the pastor received during his first year at Magnolia by certificate:

Mrs. J. K. Dunn, Mr. and Mrs. Townsend P. Terry, Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Milton, Miss Jessie Mae Johnson, Miss Mima Babington, and Miss Wilma Kaufmann; and Misses Kathleen Yvonne Bilbo, Dorothea Lou Bilbo, and Grace Lucie Brent on profession of faith.

Mrs. W. M. Lacy was president of the Womans Society in 1933 and Miss Lillian Lacy was president of the Epworth League. A revival was held in May of this year with Rev. Porter M. Caraway of Meridian as the visiting preacher. The following Methodist students were in college: Gabriel Felder, Warren C. Jones, Henry M. Jones, Mamie B. Felder, Dorothy Sanders, Madison Holmes, Jr., and Helen Frances Vaughn.

Oliver Emmerich of McComb made the Laymen's Day address in 1933.

This year actual excavations were made under the church for a sub-story. The room was thirty-five by fifty feet and cessation of the work was due to a desire not to incur an indebtedness.

Mrs. H. D. Lampton was president of the Womans Society in 1934. Rev. George H. Jones did the preaching during the annual revival in June. The following were in college this year: Warren Jones, Gabriel Felder, Henry Jones, Dorothy Sanders, Helen Lampton, Claude Lampton, Jr., Bailey Fridge, Jr., and D. M. Holmes, Jr.

Some names are missing in the list of those admitted into the church in 1934 but the following are of record:

By certificate, Miss Helen McGinnis, Robert L. Lenior, Mrs. R. L. Lenior, George H. Lenior, Shelton Lenior, W.

K. Barnes, J. P. McGraw, Miss Louise Turner, N. F. Greener, Mrs. Perla Greener, and Mrs. A. M. Boone; on profession of faith, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Spender. In 1935 Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Collins, Miss Gretchen Collins, Roy Ellzey, and Miss Thelma Welch were received by certificate. Frank Myer Lee, Jr., by vows.

The Brookhaven District Conference met at Magnolia, April 25, 26, 1935, with Dr. C. W. Crisler presiding and John W. Moore secretary. On the opening night of the conference Rev. Earl B. Emmerich preached; during the session Revs. C. W. Wesley, G. E. Allan, J. W. Leggett, Jr., preached. Mr. and Mrs. John R. Goza, Mrs. R. A. Brisbane, and Miss Bobby Vaughn are mentioned in the minutes for their part in the music.

A complete list of officials for the Magnolia church in 1934-35 included:

Stewards: W. A. Bilbo, R. A. Brisbane, H. H. Goza, John R. Goza, S. F. Guy, D. M. Holmes, Mrs. C. L. Lampton, E. W. Reid, Dr. G. W. Robertson, W. B. Sanders, O. O. Simmons, V. D. Simmons, and C. K. Taylor.

Trustees: H. H. Goza, H. D. Lampton, J. E. Norwood, Dr. G. W. Robertson, E. W. Reid.

President Womans Missionary Society: Mrs. H. D. Lampton.

President of the Epworth League: C. K. Taylor, Jr.

Sunday School Superintendent: R. A. Brisbane.

Adult Superintendent: Mrs. Edith Lazar.

Young Peoples' Superintendent: Mrs. O. D. Milton.

Children's Superintendent: Miss Helen Vaughn.

At the Annual Conference of 1935 Rev. W. B. Jones was appointed presiding elder of the Meridian district by Bishop Dobbs and Dr. C. W. Crisler was continued on the Brookhaven district.

Pastorate of Rev. Jasper L. Smith

Jasper Leroy Smith was a native of Lawrence county and had been a member of the Mississippi Conference since 1909; he was recommended for admission on trial at a district conference held that year in Magnolia. Brother Smith was a genial and popular pastor.

Members received by Rev. J. L. Smith during his two-year pastorate were:

(1936) J. E. Whittington, Mrs. J. E. Whittington, C. E. Whittington, Mrs. J. O. Snowden, Mrs. Prentiss Allen, Joe Warren Baxter, Dr. Aubrey V. Beacham, Mrs. W. D. Beacham, L. S. Venable, Mrs. L. S. Venable, and Mrs. Donald Dunn, all by certificate.

(1937) Walter M. Lampton, Mrs. Sue Kavanay, Robert E. Boyd, D. B. Slaton, Mrs. D. B. Slaton, John Slaton, Marjorie Slaton by certificate; and Camille Lenoir, Roy Spitchley, and Elaine Terry on profession of faith. Frank M. Lee, Sr. from the Baptist Church.

At the close of the school year in 1936 Rev. B. M. Lawrence, who had taught in the county and had been a member of the Magnolia church since 1927 left to supply the pastorate of the Coalville charge. At the next session of the Annual Conference he was admitted on trial and has been a useful and effective member of the Conference since that time. Brother Lawrence says of the Magnolia church:

"It was my privilege to have my membership in the Magnolia Methodist Church for a period of ten years while I taught school in Pike County from 1927 through 1936. During these years I enjoyed the fellowship of many fine laymen and laywomen that enriched my life. Some of these good people have gone on to eternal glory.

Four men served the church as pastor during this period: John D. Ellis, Paul D. Hardin, Jasper Smith, and W. B. Jones, all of whom have passed on to glory. I remember Bro. Ellis and Bro. Hardin with special joy, for they meant much to me."

Rev. R. H. Clegg, who had succeeded Dr. Crisler as presiding elder of the Brookhaven district, conducted a revival in the Magnolia church in 1937.

At the Annual Conference of 1937 Rev. J. L. Smith became pastor of Grace Methodist church in Jackson and Rev. J. H. Jolly came from the pastorate of the Grace church to Magnolia.

Pastorate of Rev. J. H. Jolly

John Henderson Jolly was a native of Mississippi though he spent some part of his boyhood and young manhood in Texas, where he joined the church. He came to Magnolia from Grace church, Jackson, bringing his wife, the former Miss Maude Denton, and their daughter, Helen Ruth. Brother Jolly was a diligent pastor, an earnest and effective preacher, and a faithful student of the Scriptures and other devotional literature. During his first year at Magnolia he conducted his own revival, with Frank E. Dement as song leader. The second year he was pastor the preaching in the revival was done by J. B. Cain of Hazlehurst, with William S. Cameron as song leader, and the third year the preaching was done by Ira E. Williams of Centenary church, McComb.

Mrs. O. O. Simmons was president of the Womans Society in 1939 and Mrs. John R. Goza was president in 1940. Church school officials for 1939 were R. A. Brisbane, superintendent; Miss Helen Lampton, young peoples superintendent; Miss Helen Vaughn, childrens superintendent; Mrs. N. B. Travis, adult superintendent; Frank M. Lee, secretary and treasurer. H. H. Goza was the first delegate chosen by the quarterly conference for membership in the Annual Conference.

Concerning his pastorate here Brother Jolly writes as follows:

"We were assigned to the Magnolia church in the fall of '37. When we arrived we found one of the most gracious and cultured congregations it has been our privilege to serve. One of the characteristics of that community was and is hospitality and friendliness. We enjoyed that very much.

"The first year we were there I did the preaching in our revival. The response and cooperation of the congregation was inspiring to a preacher's heart. The attendance from the other churches was good.

"One of the things that impressed me was the church building, the old frame building which has been replaced. It inspired reverence and awe and was a wonderful setting for worship.

"As the years have passed since we left there our appreciation for the Magnolia church and people has grown."

During the revival in 1939 a most unusual thing happened. At the close of the Sunday morning service the pastor asked the stewards to remain for some consultation with reference to the finances. No previous notice of the meeting had been given but every member of the board of stewards was present at the service! This is a record not attained in many churches during a revival.

Members received by Rev. J. H. Jolly during his pastorate include:

In 1938 by certificate Mrs. O. E. Coney, Jr., Miss Rosalyn Blanks, L. M. McDougall, Lynn A. Smith, and Miss Dorritt Taylor. In 1939 by certificate Mrs. William F. Brent, Mrs. J. N. Dykes, Mrs. J. W. Garner, R. B. McDougall, Mrs. Della Weeks Robinson; by vows Marjorie Penn, Jack Brent, Ray Yvonne Brisbane, Lucile Beatrice Brisbane, Robert Eaton Davis, Mrs. V. Y. Felder, Jr., Martha Sue Gordon, Gene Simmons, Amelia Simmons, and H. O. Webb. In 1940 Miss Betty Jo Carmen was received by certificate.

In the fall of 1940 the Jollys moved to Waynesboro, where they remained for five years; after that they were one year at Newton, five years at Port Gibson and at the

close of his first year at Flora he retired from the active ministry. They now make their home in Jackson at 908 Union Street, near Grace church.

Two epochal events took place during Brother Jolly's pastorate in Magnolia, one of them the Uniting Conference at Kansas City in May, 1939, in which the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Methodist Protestant Church were united into one church. No change took place in the local situation. The other event was the organization of the Womans Society of Christian Service on Wednesday, September 4, 1940, at 7:30. At the last meeting of the Womans Missionary Society on September 2nd the history of organized women's work in the local church, written by Mrs. Fannie Ford in 1928, was read with such additions as time made necessary. The *Magnolia Gazette* carried the account of organization:

"A most impressive service was held at the Methodist church on Wednesday evening, Sept. 4, at 7:30 o'clock, when the charter meeting of the Womans Society of Christian Service was held. This organization is the women's division of work under the supervision of the united Methodist church, and the activities of the Society will be along the lines as those carried on previously in the Womans Missionary Society. Rev. J. H. Jolly presided at this meeting, and spoke on the advantages of a united womanhood in Methodism.

"A choir composed of Misses Yvonne Brisbane, Bobbye Vaughn, Ardis Marie Goza, and Lemmelia Goza, and Messrs. Robert Brisbane and John Goza, with Mrs. R. A. Brisbane at the organ furnished music throughout the service.

"The following women signed the register, thus becoming charter members of the Womans Society of Christian Service:

Mesdames Fannie Ford, Frank Lee, B. O. Fridge, G. W. Robertson, J. E. Norwood, D. P. Dunn, J. E.

Whittington, J. Y. Prescott, Jr., W. P. Page, O. O. Simmons, Mary Hubbard, W. E. Collins, C. E. Bilbo, Perla Powell, Sue Kavanay, Prentiss Allen, N. B. Travis, Florence Milton. W. D. Beacham, Estelle Milton, M. G. Vaughn, D. C. Williams, A. R. Lansing, D. M. Holmes, Helen Weathersby, E. W. Reid, O. E. Coney, Jr., W. M. Lacy, John R. Goza, Mount McDougall, C. L. Lampton, R. B. McDougall, R. A. Brisbane, Miss Cherry Wright, and Mrs. J. H. Jolly.

The following officers were elected to serve the organization:

Mrs. John R. Goza, *President.*
Mrs. Mary Hubbard, *Vice-President.*
Mrs. R. A. Brisbane, *Recording Secretary.*
Mrs. R. B. McDougall, *Corresponding Secretary.*
Mrs. W. P. Page, *Treasurer.*
Mrs. G. W. Robertson, *Assistant Treasurer.*
Mrs. W. D. Beacham, *Secretary Literature and Publications.*
Mrs. C. L. Lampton, *Secretary Missionary Education.*
Mrs. J. H. Jolly, *Secretary Christian Social Relations.*
Miss Cherry Wright, *Secretary of Supplies.*
Mrs. O. O. Simmons, *Secretary Children's Work.*
Mrs. P. M. Allen, *Secretary Pre-School Age.*

"The meeting was closed with a prayer by Mrs. Goza, which ended with the singing of 'A Charge to Keep I Have,' very softly by the congregation."

Mrs. J. R. Goza was elected delegate to the Womans Conference Charter Meeting in Natchez in October with Mrs. G. W. Robertson as alternate.

Mrs. Goza continued as president until December 1, 1942, when Mrs. J. E. Whittington was elected president and served for three years.

Pastorate of Dr. G. F. Winfield

Rev. George Freeman Winfield was a native Texan who came to Mississippi in 1928 as president of Whitworth College. When that institution was closed in 1938 he became pastor at Broad Street church, Hattiesburg,

from which pastorate he came to Magnolia as pastor. During the summer of 1941 Rev. W. L. Elkin, a student at Emory University, served as assistant pastor and youth worker for the Magnolia church.

Members received by Dr. Winfield during this two-year pastorate included:

1941 (By certificate) Mrs. G. F. Winfield, Bernard Reynolds, Frank A. Reynolds, Milton H. Reynolds, George Wren Reynolds, Mrs. W. M. Sullivan, Miss Nita Sullivan, Mrs. C. L. Dewitt, Joseph Carre Galloway, Douglas Mayo, George Washington White, Neal A. White, James E. Weedy, Mrs. J. E. Weedy, Blanche Brewer.

(By vows) A. R. Lansing, Jr., Jeanella Lansing, Mrs. F. R. Linblad, Clifton Emile Linblad, William Arthur Linblad, R. J. Prescott, and P. M. Allen.

1942 (By certificate) Miss Gretchen Collins, Mrs. R. G. Carmen, W. W. Dickerson, John C. Gibson, Mrs. John C. Gibson, Mrs. John A. Randolph, Marvin Jordan, Mrs. L. P. Hutchinson, Mrs. W. R. Holmes.

(By vows) Malcolm Kirk Coney, Jr., Eleanor Travis, Margaret Ann Hutchinson, Mary Evelyn Hutchinson.

Dr. Winfield set himself soon after his arrival to the promotion of a new church building. As part of the promotional plan he observed the 130th anniversary of Methodism in the community that later became Magnolia with a series of services including the first week of September, 1941. Unfortunately, the outbreak of the Second World War in December made building impossible, so a movement was started to raise $5000 in war bonds each year until conditions made it possible to proceed with the building. Something more than $3000 in bonds was contributed in 1942, Dr. G. W. Robertson contributing a one thousand dollar bond himself. At the end of that year Dr. Winfield was assigned to the pastorate of the Tylertown church.

Second Pastorate of Rev. J. E. Gray

In the fall of 1942 Rev. John Early Gray returned to Magnolia for his second pastorate, twenty-five years after he came for his first pastorate a few weeks after the close of the First World War. Now the Second World War was in full blast. A great loss had come to the family since their first stay at Magnolia in the death of their only daughter, a shock from which they never recovered.

In spite of the war there were some advantages in the current situation in 1943-44. During the preceding pastorate Rev. W. M. Sullivan and his family had come to make their home at Magnolia and were active in all the program of the church. Also Dr. R. L. Hunt with his family were in the local school, and Miss Jennie Youngblood, now a leader with the General Board of Education, was a teacher in the local school. Additional bonds were added for building a new church, but on account of the war situation nothing tangible was done in regard to the actual building.

A good many new names appeared on the list of officials, including P. M. Allen, John C. Gibson, S. F. Guy, W. R. Holmes, R. L. Hunt, L. M. McDougall, and S. E. Babington. Mrs. J. E. Whittington was president of the Womans Society for both 1943 and 1944, serving the last year in place of Mrs. Robert Hall.

Members received by Rev. J. E. Gray were as follows:

Certificate: Mrs. J. E. Gray, Mrs. John Crouch, Mrs. Iddo Lampton, Sr., R. W. McKay, Mrs. R. W. McKay, Mrs. J. D. Rushing, Mrs. A. P. Sims, Benjamin A. Sims, Mrs. Malcolm Simmons, Mrs. Clifford Shipp, Miss Dorothy Sanders, Miss Frances Simmons and Mrs. Opal Watson.

Vows: Kathryn Hall Goza, Paul Lenoir, Marilyn Watson.

Rev. H. M. Wells of the Fayette Methodist church con-

ducted a revival in the church at Magnolia in September, 1944.

During the latter year a campaign was made over the two Conferences for the Christian Center building at Millsaps College and the Magnolia church contributed $971 for this purpose.

Pastorate of Rev. E. A. Kelly

Rev. E. A. Kelly came to the pastorate of the Magnolia church from Woodville. His own account of their arrival here is worthy of a place in the record:

"We were assigned to the Magnolia church in November, 1944. When we arrived at the parsonage we were welcomed by a committee, composed, as I recall, of Mrs. J. E. Whittington, Mrs. W. E. Collins, Mrs. V. D. Walter, and Brother W. M. Sullivan, who made us feel that we were among friends. The Official Board met that evening with every member present, and our family was escorted out to the church by Brother W. M. Sullivan, who introduced us to the officers of the church.

"The Board informed us that a church supper had been planned for the adult membership of the church at Percy Quin Park, with Dr. Clovis Chappell as the speaker. This was a delightful occasion and got the year off to a good start, the beginning of one of the very happiest appointments of our ministry and the longest, eight years and eight months.

"We received as fine treatment and as full cooperation as could possibly be expected by any pastor and his family. We think any preacher's family is fortunate and privileged to serve the people of the Magnolia church. There was less friction in the Magnolia church than in any other church we have served. The new church was built without any rift in a single meeting of the Building Committee or Official Board."

The Wesleyan Service Guild was organized on Wednesday night, December 20, 1944. The guiding spirit in the formation of this new organization was Mrs. J. E. Whit-

tington, retiring president of the Womans Society of Christian Service. Officers elected were as follows: Mrs. L. M. McDougall, president; Mrs. John Goza, vice-president; Mrs. Marvin Jordan, recording secretary; Mrs. John Brisbane, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Frank M. Lee, treasurer. Other charter members were Mrs. V. D. Walter, Mrs. R. B. McDougall, Mrs. Alex Pittman, Mrs. R. W. McKay, Mrs. Grace Vaughn, Mrs. John Gibson, Mrs. Sue Kavanay, Misses Mackie McRaney, Nita Sullivan, Helen and Wilma Vaughn.

At the second quarterly conference of the year, held on March 18, 1945, the following significant resolution was adopted:

"Be it Resolved by the Quarterly Conference of the Magnolia Methodist Church that the recommendation of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Stewards that a new church be erected is hereby given our approval. And it be it further resolved that in accordance with Paragraph 258 of the Discipline the District Superintendent is hereby requested for written permission to build a new church; and be it further resolved that the Pastor is requested to make public announcement of the same from the pulpit.

(Signed) R. L. Hunt
Frank M. Lee."

In 1945 Mrs. C. E. Bilbo was president of the Womans Society and Miss Amelia Simmons was president of the Youth Fellowship. W. E. Collins, Marvin Jordan, and James Weedy were new stewards. Dr. R. L. Hunt accepted a new responsibility elsewhere. His going was a great loss to the Magnolia church.

At the fourth quarterly conference on October 3, 1945, Rev. W. M. Sullivan made his final report to a quarterly conference:

"Sermons preached . . 10
Conducted victory service.

Held three prayer services.
Assisted in four funerals.
Baptized one infant.
Married two couples.
Visit the hospital regularly.
Contented in my relation.

Respectfully,
W. M. Sullivan, Retired"

Brother Sullivan had been a member of various quarterly conferences since he was licensed to exhort on November 10, 1883, sixty-two years. The victory service to which he refers was that held in most churches at the close of the Second World War. He never attended another quarterly conference and passed away on January 18, 1946.

James T. Coleman, the new school superintendent, was added to the list of Stewards for 1946 and Mrs. E. A. Kelly succeeded Mrs. C. E. Bilbo as president of the Womans Society and served till 1948. Eleanor Travis became president of the Youth Fellowship. The principal event in 1946 was the Million for the Master campaign, for which cause the Magnolia church paid $1376 before the Annual Conference, $833 in 1947, and $544 in 1948.

On January 29, 1947, a Building Committee for the new church was named by the quarterly conference as follows: Dr. G. W. Robertson, R. A. Brisbane, Mrs. E. W. Reid, O. O. Simmons, V. Y. Felder, Sr., Dr. A. V. Beacham, R. B. McDougall, P. M. Allen, Rev. E. A. Kelly, John R. Goza and Barton Lampton, with John C. Gibson in charge of publicity. Something like $40,000 was in hand for this purpose by the close of the year.

By June, 1947, the movement had reached the point where the Building Committee made a contract with N. C. Gordon of Richton to demolish the old church which had stood since 1898, and to store the usable material, as far as possible, in a building which he would con-

struct, now the garage. On Sunday, June 15, 1947, all church services were held in the grammar school building and for a year and a half this was the practice, though during part of the time union Sunday evening services were held with the Presbyterians at their church.

On September 18, 1947, bids were received on the new building, the lowest being $73,626. The Building Committee reconsidered the plan and made some reductions in the number of Sunday School rooms, and on February 3, 1948, the bid of Dye and Mullings for $51,000 was accepted. The editor of the local paper commented editorially, "Finally, at long last, work has actually begun on the new Methodist church." This was on March 18, 1948.

During 1947 Rev. B. M. Hunt, pastor of the Main Street Methodist church in Hattiesburg, conducted a revival in the Magnolia church. He was well and favorably known in the area, having served for four years as pastor of the Gloster church and later four years as pastor of Centenary church, McComb.

The year 1948 was a significant one in the Magnolia church. Rev. L. D. Haughton began a six-year period of service as District Superintendent. On June 30, 1948, Robert A. Brisbane, who had been superintendent of the Church School since July 2, 1922, a period of twenty-six years, graciously retired from that position and was succeeded by John Reid Goza, Jr., who held the position until October 1, 1954.

The major event of the year was the building of a new church. On April 25, 1948, the pastor was able to report "that our new church is in the process of being constructed. By the next quarterly conference we hope to be in the new church. All the work of the church has been slowed down because of the handicap of not having a building." But on October 1 he was compelled to say, "We regret that we are not in the new church."

The Annual Conference, meeting in October, 1948, voted to hold its annual sessions in June, beginning in 1949, so the new Conference year began with only eight months' time in which to carry on its work. Salaries and apportionments were set on the basis of two-thirds of their usual amounts, the salary of the pastor, which had been $3,000 for the 1947-48 Conference year, being set at the sum of $2,200, which was an actual increase. The change of date was not unanimously approved in the Annual Conference and considerable confusion resulted. The church school year for the whole church, which began on October 1, heretofore just before the Annual Conference, now began three months after the Conference adjourned. The Womans Society year, formerly by the calendar, now found itself divided into two equal parts, which was later changed by making its year to begin on June 1 each year. Mrs. John R. Goza had succeeded Mrs. E. A. Kelly as president and held that office for four years.

The first service in the new Methodist building was held on Sunday, January 2, 1949, so that the new year and occupancy of the new building began at the same time. The services were conducted by the pastor, Rev. E. A. Kelly, and largely attended by members of the local congregation and visitors from the community. The choir sang as an anthem "I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me" and Miss Eleanor Travis sang "Bless This House." Rev. E. A. Kelly was serving this his fifth year as pastor of the local congregation.

At the first quarterly conference in the new church, on January 23, 1949, Harry C. Raymond, a teacher in the local high school, was recommended to the District Conference for license to preach, which was granted by that body. After a number of years as a local Methodist preacher Mr. Raymond is now a useful and valued member of the Presbyterian Church, in charge of their Child Welfare program.

A new organization of Methodist Men was effected on February 15, 1949, with S. E. Babington as the first president. Miss Ann Bilbo was now president of the Youth Fellowship. Rev. B. E. Crowson, a local Methodist minister, Mrs. Crowson and Winifred came into the membership of the Magnolia church.

The year 1949 was the sesqui-centennial year of Mississippi Methodism. The first Methodist congregation in Mississippi was organized at Washington, six miles from Natchez, by Rev. Tobias Gibson in 1799. The entire year was devoted to recognition of this anniversary and on October 9-11, 1949, Sesqui-Centennial services were held in the Washington Methodist church, having such distinguished speakers as Bishop Marvin A. Franklin, Bishop Paul E. Martin, Dr. William Warren Sweet, and many others. Sermons by Bishop Franklin at the early morning service and again at the eleven o'clock service were broadcast under the direction of Rev. James W. Sells and many congregations heard the sermon in their own churches as part of their own worship service and joined with the Millsaps Singers, under the direction of Prof. Alvin J. King, and the congregation at the Washington church, under the direction of Dr. A. P. Hamilton, in singing the great hymns.

The first persons received into the church in the new building were Aldine Myra Tucker, Marilyn Joyce McGehee, Ella Janice McGehee, Elbert Ellwyn Kuyrkendall, Marion Kay Coney, Hannah Marilyn Burnson, Phil Olin Burnson, Irene Elizabeth Fridge, James Edward Weedy and Roger Kuyrkendall. During the 1949-50 Conference year great stress was laid on mission specials and the Magnolia church assumed $262 for this purpose. During the remainder of his pastorate in Magnolia the pastor spent much time in organizing the various activities already in existence and perfecting the plans and move-

ments in the church. Good revivals were held by Rev. L. D. Haughton and Dr. W. B. Selah. Mrs. C. J. Coleman served as president of the Womans Society of Christian Service and Miss Eugenia Kelly succeeded Miss Ann Bilbo as president of the Youth Fellowship. Mrs. J. W. Stewart became president of the Womans Society in June, 1952, serving for four years. Leslie Wayne Rushing was recommended for license to preach on December 30, 1951, which license was granted soon afterward.

Members received by Rev. E. A. Kelly during his pastorate in Magnolia included a great number:

By Certificate: Mrs. E. A. Kelly, Eugenia Kelly, Mrs. Sallie E. Hunt, Wilford Case, Mrs. R. L. Kuyrkendall, Jr., J. J. Bass, Mrs. J. J. Bass, Bettie Joe Bass, Joyce Bass, Jake Bass, Mrs. Myrtis Lewis, Howard Lewis, Lucile Lewis, Julius Lewis, B. L. Mercier, Mr. B. L. Mercier, Walter B. Miley, Mrs. John S. Madden, Miss Mary Virginia Simmons, David Westbrook, Mrs. D. S. Westbrook, Vesta Grace Westbrook, John Anders, James T. Coleman, Mrs. J. T. Coleman, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Collins, Marvin Blanks, Mrs. W. A. Bilbo, Linda Ann Bilbo, Robert Gordon, C. J. Coleman, Mrs. C. J. Coleman, H. I. Crum, Mrs. H. I. Crum, Mr. and Mrs. Howard McGehee, Mrs. Mattie Shephard, Mrs. S. J. Bryant, Fred W. Broyles, Mrs. Lula Curtis, Mrs. G. C. Gwin, Miss Alice Gwin, Robert Gwin, Mr. and Mrs. Champ Yarborough, Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Russell, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Rushing, Wayne Rushing, Mrs. W. O. Sadler, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Brewer, Mrs. Mary Barnes, Mrs. Marvin Blanks, Dr. and Mrs. Harry Frye, Mrs. John Anders, J. T. Barnes, Wilford Case, Mrs. E. E. Cosnahan, James Goza, Tommy Gene Guy, Harry Rogers, Mrs. Ora Stewart, Mrs. Gladys Simmons, Ora Dean Simmons, Mrs. Ben Stewart, Paul Swink, Mrs. Paul Swink, Paul Swink, Jr., Annette Swink, Dr. and Mrs. J. O. Wood, Dr. and Mrs. Warren Hiatt, Mrs. Henry King, J. T. King, Mrs. J. T. King, James and Reggie King, Mrs. Walter Lampton, James Lea, Mrs. James Lea, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. McDougall, Mrs. W. B. Sanders, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. W. H.

Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. McDade, Mr. and Mrs. V. D. Walter, H. W. Godbold, Mrs. H. W. Godbold, Mr. and Mrs. Owen Goudelock, Owen Goudelock, Jr., Jerry Goudelock, O. E. Coney, Jr., Oliver Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Raymond.

On Profession of Faith: Pat Fuller, Jane Travis, Aubrey Jerome Ford, Dorothy Dee Ford, Carolyn Allen, William Burney Bilbo, Johnny Nell Mixon, Marilyn Joyce McGehee, Ella Janice McGehee, Churchill Watson, Maxie Watson, Beatrice Prescott, J. A. Pittman, A. D. Nunnery, Billie Robinson, Howard Robinson, Aldine Tucker, Elbert Kuyrkendall, Kay Coney, Hannah Burnson, Phil Burnson, Irene Fridge, Bonnie Jean Coleman, Carolyn Coney, Eugene Coshahan, Johnnie Mae Davis, Barbara Felder, Jerry Felder, Doyle Forman, Martha Carolyn Gibson, Leta Frances Ford, James Tate, Avery Dale Tate, Jimmy Watson, Jimmy Weathersby, J. E. Rushing, Stacy Russell, Frank Russell, Charles Jones, Patsy Kuyrkendall, Bonnie Clyde Lane, Barbara Lane, Sherry Yarborough, Louise Martin, Burnell Smith, Jean Kavanay, Tim Kavanay, Clyde Stanfield, Mary Ford McDougall, Patsy McKay, Thomas Madden, James E. Weedy, Jr., Connie Allen, Mrs. Howard Taylor.

Wayne Rushing, who was licensed to preach from the Magnolia church, is now a member of the North Mississippi Conference, after graduating from Delta State College and the Candler School of Theology. At present he is pastor at Merigold and writes from there:

"The years 1951-52-53 was a period in my life when the Methodists of Magnolia, Mississippi, determined the kind of minister I was to become. Time and again I have noticed that my life has reflected the attitudes that were breathed into me during those determinative years. I often think of the wise advice I received from Mrs. Frank Lee, my Sunday School teacher. When it became clear that I would enter the ministry she once said to me: 'be patient with folks, remember that some people pass through life as a man might walk over a path of broken bottles with bare feet.' I could never measure in words the tremendous impact the Reverend E. A. Kelly had upon my ministry. Perhaps more than any other person his love and patience unsealed for me the wells

of understanding. Having never known him would have been a great personal loss. Despite the fact that I was frequently inconsistent in my living and my thinking, the membership of that wonderful church was untiring in kindness toward me. The sympathy and understanding given to me greatly lightened the enormous burden that was mine. The knowledge that I had my beginning with the Methodists at Magnolia is an unending joy."

At the Annual Conference held in June, 1953, Rev. E. A. Kelly was assigned to the pastorate of the Forest church. During his pastorate at Magnolia Mrs. Kelly served as president of the Womans Society of Christian Service, and their daughter, Miss Eugenia Kelly, as president of the Methodist Youth Fellowship. This is perhaps a record, where every member of the parsonage family held some major responsibility in the church.

Presidents of Methodist Men during the remaining part of Brother Kelly's pastorate were V. Y. Felder, Sr., W. E. Collins, and O. E. Coney, Jr.

Pastorate of Rev. E. C. Presley

Earl Christian Presley came to Magnolia in June, 1953, from a very successful pastorate in Morton, where he had built the present Methodist church. He was the first pastor to move to Magnolia after the Annual Conference was changed from October to June. Before coming to Magnolia he had served at Mayersville, Brandon and Morton, with outstanding building records at each of these places, as well as smaller churches connected with them. He was a native of Yazoo county and in early life was a member of the Vaughan Methodist church. He was the second pastor at Magnolia with a Bachelor of Divinity degree, which he received at Emory University, Rev. W. B. Jones being the first. With him to Magnolia came Mrs. Presley and their four attractive daughters, Lillian B., Virginia Earle, Thalia and Billie Presley.

Of their stay in Magnolia Brother Presley writes:

"The Magnolia Methodist Church is one of God's gems. It is one of those churches, that like the one at Thyatira, where the Son of God said, 'I know your works, your love and faith and service and patient endurance, and that your latter works exceed the first.' Magnolia is one place where a minister can always look back with joy and pride that he has at one time served there. It is located in one of the choice spots of the South and truly where the hospitality of the Old South still lives. The church does things with a big heart; the leaders seem to thrive on doing bigger and better things for the Kingdom of Christ. We consider our year one of the richest and one with the sweetest memories of our ministry. Long live the Magnolia Methodist Church."

The year 1953-54 was a period of intense activity. Early in the year the District Training School was held at Brookhaven and attended by a large number of members from this church. A local training class was conducted by Miss Rebecca Lovett of Millsaps College. A revival was held early in the year by Rev. S. M. Butts of the North Mississippi Conference. A goal was set for attendance at the midweek service at fifty and the attendance of this service was probably higher than at any time in recent years. Jane Travis was president of the Methodist Youth Fellowship, which was well represented at the Youth Assembly, and also in the Peggy Billings Sub-District, which included all churches in Pike County and several adjoining counties. Seven young people attended the Youth Convocation at Millsaps and Belhaven colleges in August and four attended the Evangelism camp.

W. A. Bilbo was president of Methodist Men this year, which had a high attendance and a good interest in the programs. Mrs. Ben Stewart was president of the Wesleyan Service Guild. A new circle of the Womans Society was formed this year, named for Mrs. Mary L.

Reid, of which Mrs. A. J. Flowers, Jr. was the first president.

Members received by Rev. E. C. Presley during this year included Pamela Miley, Beverly Tate and Billy Wolbrecht on profession of faith, and Mrs. Churchill Watson, Mrs. E. C. Presley, Lillian and Virginia Presley, Mrs. J. R. Kennedy, Thalia M. Presley, Billie B. Presley, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Roberts, Mrs. Ruby Tate and Churchill Watson were received by certificate.

There had been a good many changes in the official membership of the church since the list of 1934-35. Many new names have appeared on the roll in that time: S. E. Babington, A. V. Beacham, W. A. Bilbo, Marvin Blanks, W. E. Collins, O. E. Coney, Jr., Roy Ellzey, V. Y. Felder, Sr. (formerly a member), John C. Gibson, John Reid Goza, Jr., Marvin Jordan, Percy Lampton, Frank M. Lee, Leslie Lenoir, R. B. McDougall, R. W. McKay, H. C. Moore, Lampton Reid, O. O. Simmons, Mrs. N. B. Travis, James E. Weedy, W. C. Weeks, W. R. Holmes, J. B. Lampton, L. M. McDougall, Dr. Harry Frye and Dr. Warren Hiatt.

The outstanding event in the Conference year 1953-54 was the Million for Millsaps campaign. The chairman of the local committee was L. M. McDougall. More than $1,000 was paid by the Magnolia church to Millsaps College as a result of this campaign.

At the Annual Conference of 1954 Rev. E. C. Presley was appointed pastor of the Tylertown church. Since that time he has served for four years as pastor of the Grace Methodist church in Natchez and is now pastor at Clinton. He and his family have many friends in Magnolia who welcome them back on their occasional visits.

Pastorate of Rev. J. B. Cain

"We arrived in Magnolia on June 29, 1954, after two years at Waynesboro. Loyce, our daughter, was at Camp

Merri-Mac, North Carolina, and did not return home until August 19. She had finished her junior year at Belhaven College and remained with us until the opening of her senior year in college in September. Other college students that fall were Jane Travis and Aubrey Jerome Ford at Millsaps, Billy Wolbrecht at Mississippi Southern, and Dorothy Dee Ford at Tulane. Mrs. Brisbane was away when we came and her place was filled on Sundays by Misses Marilyn McGehee and Aldine Tucker."

The normal activities of a local church continued through the summer and fall of 1954. Mrs. J. B. Cain, Loyce Cain, Mr. and Mrs. Grover C. Amsden, Frances Glenn Amsden, and Frank Johnson were received by certificate into the Magnolia church, while Louie P. Hutchinson took the vows of membership. Three faithful members passed away: Mrs. J. E. Whittington, James Goza, and Charles E. Davis. O. O. Simmons was chairman of the official board this year, John R. Goza, Sr., was lay leader and treasurer. J. R. Goza, Jr., was superintendent of the church school but was succeeded in October by L. M. McDougall. Mrs. Ora Stewart was president of the Womans Society, Mrs. W. A. Bilbo was president of the Wesleyan Service Guild, and Dr. Harry Frye was president of Methodist Men. Jane Travis was president of the Methodist Youth Fellowship and was succeeded by Carolyn Allen. Sixteen persons received a certificate of credit in a local class on the Methodist Church: Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Brisbane, Mrs. Marvin Blanks, Jr., Mrs. J. B. Cain, Mrs. Harry Frye, Mrs. A. J. Flowers, Jr., J. R. Goza, Sr., F. M. Lee, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. McDougall, Mrs. R. B. McDougall, Mrs. N. B. Travis, and W. C. Weeks.

The year 1955 was a year of varied experiences. Rev. Fred S. Flurry and Rev. M. F. Lytle conducted a revival here in April. Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Lenoir, Mr. and Mrs. John S. Thompson, and Mrs. Paul Ballard transferred their

membership to Magnolia and Kay McGehee, Yvonne Broyles, and Laurie Anders took the vows of the church during the year. Marvin G. Vaughn, Mrs. Donald P. Dunn, and Mrs. Ardis Goza passed away in 1955. R. W. McKay was president of Methodist Men for the year 1955-56 and Mrs. Stewart was president of the Womans Society.

Magnolia observed its centennial in 1956, the 100th anniversary of the coming of the railroad, the first train arriving here on April 13, 1856. Careful preparation had been made for a suitable centennial observance on a city wide basis, with our church, the oldest church in the city, having an important part. The Methodist Church was represented on the program on Friday afternoon by Rev. M. F. Lytle and in the pageant on Saturday night one section was devoted to the beginnings of Methodism in the community as early as 1811. Thousands of people thronged the city on Saturday for the parade, the pageant, and other features of the program.

Sunday was the great day for the Magnolia church and other churches in the community. One hundred and ninety out of town visitors registered at the two services at the Methodist church. Rev. W. B. Jones, former pastor here, whose brother, Rev. K. A. Jones was pastor in 1856-57, was the guest of honor, and his son, Dr. George H. Jones, of Nashville preached on the church at the morning hour. In the afternoon Professor Paul D. Hardin of Millsaps College, son of a former pastor, Rev. Paul D. Hardin, and Rev. John W. Moore, son of another former pastor, Rev. John A. Moore, were the speakers. Both of these were former members of this church. At night the Methodists joined in a great union service at the First Baptist church.

The summer of 1956 was filled with activities of many kinds. The pastor had part in the Gulfside Assembly in

July and Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Cain attended the World Methodist Conference at Lake Junaluska in September. This was a notable occasion, attended by representative Methodists from all over the world, an experience not to be forgotten.

Early in the year the quarterly conference appointed a committee on the parsonage, consisting of Dr. A. V. Beacham, chairman, J. R. Goza, Sr., vice-chairman, Mrs. L. M. McDougall, treasurer; S. E. Babington, Mrs. W. M. Sullivan, Mrs. O. O. Simmons, Mrs. P. M. Allen, and Mrs. J. B. Cain. A generous gift by the Magnolia Bank for this purpose was increased by personal contributions by the membership and a thorough task of renewing the parsonage was accomplished by the time of the fall centennial observance. In the meantime the necessary money was raised to pay the debt on the church.

The Magnolia Methodist church, which had joined in the city-wide centennial services in April, had a week of centennial services of its own from October 6th through the 13th. On Sunday morning, October 6th, Rev. M. F. Lytle taught the adult Sunday School class. Bishop Marvin A. Franklin preached at the eleven o'clock hour and Rev. E. A. Kelly, pastor when the church was built, preached at night. In the afternoon Bishop Franklin dedicated the church, and open house was held at the parsonage. In his message Bishop Franklin said:

"A vital religious experience strengthens the finer purposes of life. It meets and satisfies the deepest needs of life. It brings us to Christ as our Saviour as the companion of the highway we travel, and the sure hope of the life to come. This experience keeps life flowing outward and onward and not inward and backward. It lifts life out of the immediate and helps us to see the invisible and eternal. It frees our lives from becoming dammed up with biting memories, deepening resentments, and deadening frustrations. It pre-

vents us from becoming consumed by self-pity as though God and man were against us.

The only thing that will give us a true sense of well-being is to walk by faith in the sun of God through sunshine and shadow to the very end of the way."

Rev. E. A. Kelly, under whose pastorate the church was built, was present for the entire day and brought a stirring message at the evening hour. Rev. J. H. Jolly, one of the best-loved former pastors, was present in the afternoon, also Rev. E. C. Presley, who brought a fine message on Monday morning.

Members received by certificate in 1956 included Mrs. Lillian Causey, William Emmett Causey, Mrs. Mamie H. Blunk, J. S. Blaylock, Mrs. Opal Blaylock, Donna Carter Harris, Warren Fesmire, and Mrs. Helen Fesmire.

Services were continued throughout Centennial Week, with sermons by Rev. E. C. Presley, Dr. B. M. Hunt, Rev. John W. Moore, and Rev. B. M. Lawrance, all formerly related to the Magnolia church. Sunday, October 14th, was a great day. Bishop Nolan B. Harmon preached at the eleven o'clock hour, at which time Nancy Carmen Flowers took the vows of membership, and President Ellis Finger of Millsaps College preached in the afternoon. Participating in the afternoon service were Rev. M. F. Lytle, Rev. J. B. Riley, Rev. O. W. Wardlaw, Rev. Geo. A. Skelton, Rev. Fred W. Thompson, and Rev. Garland C. Dean. Rev. R. I. Moore, Jr., led the song services during the centennial revival. Writing later from his home in Charlotte Bishop Harmon said:

"I take pleasure in putting a word in the History of the Magnolia Church because of the strong ties I feel to Magnolia. My father's pastorate there occurred while I was in college, and while I spent some time in the parsonage—especially in the summer time—I did not get to become acquainted as well as I should have liked.

"When I had the 'flu' in Camp Taylor during the First World War, they let me come home to recuperate, and I was glad to get on old Illinois Central train No. 3 and get to Magnolia late one November evening. In fact, the Armistice was signed while I was being kept carefully indoors from the bleak November weather on the stern orders of my father, who was really a wonderful sick-nurse as we in the family well knew. Dr. Robertson, our beloved physician, was there too, to help look after me and so I mended nicely and then left Magnolia for good.

"It was a pleasure to be back at the Centennial celebration with my old comrade, J. B. Cain. The prayers we uttered that day for an even greater future of the Magnolia Church are still in my heart. Whoever put the flowers on the altar that day in honor of my father and mother, Reverend Nolan B. and Juliet Howe Harmon, did something that touched me deeply. May God bless you all in very way."

As part of the Centennial Year Dr. Maldwyn Edwards of the British Methodist Church preached at our church on November 18, 1956. The last general meeting here in 1956 was the Brookhaven District Conference on December 11th. Rev. M. F. Lytle presided and Rev. G. R. Childress was secretary. Rev. John Edward Thomas of Woodville was among those licensed to preach that day.

A fine Student Recognition Day program was observed on December 30th. Trelles Case played the organ and Roy Ellzey, Jr. was the soloist. Lacy Causey brought the principal message. Other students present were Doyle Foreman, Janice McGehee, Carolyn Allen, and Jane Travis.

Events Since 1956

While this history covers the first hundred years of the Magnolia Methodist church it seems proper to include a synopsis of the principal events since that time up through the present. Revivals have been held by Revs. Clyde H. Gunn, James F. Campbell, and John W. Moore, with Rev. M. F. Lytle, Mr. James and Rev. William T.

Gober. Mrs. L. M. McDougall, Mrs. W. E. Collins, and Mrs. Frank M. Lee have served as presidents of the Womans Society of Christian Service. W. C. Weeks, R. W. McKay, F. M. Lee, Warren Fesmire, Barton Lampton, and Curtis Fairburn have been presidents of Methodist Men. William Burney Bilbo, Carolyn Coney, Paul Bostic, Mary Ford McDougall, and Warren Hiatt, Jr., have been presidents of the Methodist Youth Fellowship. Mrs. Marvin Jordan succeeded Mrs. W. A. Bilbo as president of the Wesleyan Service Guild, of which Mrs. R. J. Prescott, Jr., is now the president. Mrs. Warren Fesmire has been Director of Christian Education for the last two years of this period. Mrs. John R. Anders has given very efficient service as secretary of the church on a voluntary basis for the last eight years. Miss Alice Gwin has led the young people in a fine way.

The following persons have been received into the fellowship of this church during the last few years:

1957—*By vows:* Curtis Bruce Fairburn, Bettie Gean Dearmond, Roger Edward Dearmond, W. M. Dearmond, Jr., Nancy Helen Frye, Warren A. Hiatt, Jr., Harriett Jordan, Gregory Vaughn McDougall, Ardis Elizabeth Goza, and Christine Cosnahan.

By transfer: Mrs. C. J. Coleman, Bonnie Jean Coleman, Aldine Tucker, Calvin S. Blair, Mrs. Calvin S. Blair, Loyce Cain, George W. Lenoir, Mrs. Frances Lenoir, Sue Lenoir, Mrs. Blanche S. Goza, and Mrs. Iddo W. Lampton.

1958—*By vows:* Prentiss Daniel Allen, Marvin E. Blanks III, Alice Ann Fesmire, Helen Elizabeth Frye, Fred Michael Long, Jr., Patricia Lynn Ferrell, Jane Marie Pattie, and Paul Huey Bostic.

By transfer: Claude M. McClendon, Mrs. Hazel Bankston, C. M. Lane, Mrs. C. M. Lane, C. M. Lane, Jr., Mrs. Vincie L. Lane, Fred M. Long, Mrs. Fred M. Long, K. L. Ferrell, Mrs. K. L. Ferrell, Kirby Ann Ferrell, William T. Pattie,

Mrs. W. T. Pattie, Lacy Causey, E. W. King, and Mrs. E. W. King.

1959—*Transfer:* Mrs. O. B. Eaton, A. B. Connally, Carroll W. Moore.

1960—*Transfer:* Mrs. Sue Holliwell Nabors, Mrs. H. S. Westbrook.

Vows: Jerry Godbold, Jane Miley, Eleanor Broyles, Wendell Lyn Blanks.

1961—*Vows:* Billy King.

DEATHS

The Magnolia church has lost heavily by death in recent years, some of its finest members having passed away. The list includes the following:

Vernon Y. Felder, Sr., Marvin G. Vaughn, Mrs. Ardis R. Goza, Mrs. Donald P. Dunn, Louie P. Hutchinson, and Mrs. Neva S. Fridge in 1955.

Mrs. Lexie L. Sadler, Mrs. Ada L. Felder, and Miss Jane Huff in 1956.

Sidney E. Bales, Harry Kornrumpf, John A. Martin, Mrs. Florence Milton, Mrs. Mary Webb Nunnery, Robert L. Lenoir, A. D. Nunnery, and Mrs. Iddo W. Lampton in 1957.

Mrs. Mattie Ford Lampton, Robert A. Brisbane, Mrs. Annie E. Lamkin, and Mrs. Lemmelia L. Robertson in 1958.

W. Booth Vaughn, Mrs. Eleanor B. Sanders, Wilford Case, and Mrs. Ouida Holmes in 1959.

Miss May Wright and Mrs. Gladys Huff Travis in 1960.

Robert Gwin and David C. Wright in 1961.

COLLEGE STUDENTS

The Magnolia church has had an exceptionally fine group of college students in the last several years: Malcolm K. Coney, Jr., Miss Dorothy Dee Ford, Miss Eugenia Kelly, Miss Lillian Presley, Miss Carolyn Allen, John Raymond Kavanay, William Burney Bilbo, Maxey Watson, James E. Weedy, Jr., Clyde Stanfield, Kay Coney, Hannah Burnson, Aldine Tucker, Bonnie Jean Coleman, Roger Kurykendall, Elbert Kurykendall, Marilyn McGehee, Janice McGehee, Martha Carolyn Gibson,

Irene Fridge, Patricia McKay, Barbara Felder, Jerry Felder, Wayne Rushing, Doyle Foreman, Carolyn Coney, Ora Dean Simmons, Loyce Cain, Jane Travis, R. J. Prescott, Lacy Causey, Willem Causey, Christy Cosnahan, Maurice Lane, Paul Bostic; some three dozen college students in this short period, which number will be increased this fall by Mary Ford McDougall, Connie Allen, Eugene Cosnahan, and Leta Frances Ford.

Charles F. Smith
1859———1958

On April 5, 1958, the venerable Charles F. Smith, retired Methodist minister, and the oldest living former member of the Magnolia Methodist church died at his home in Houston, Texas, at the age of ninety-eight years and six months. His daughter, Miss Elizabeth Chrisman Smith, has prepared very effectively a brief sketch of his life to be included in the history of the Magnolia church, with which he was so vitally connected in his early manhood:

"The Magnolia Methodist Church can consider itself the spiritual home of a devoted servant of Jesus Christ who was destined to devote seventy-five years to the Methodist ministry. As a young school teacher, Charles F. Smith was a faithful attendant of the Magnolia church and by the time of his departure from Magnolia he had reached the decision to heed his unmistakable call to preach. From that day forward his predominating characteristic was the deep regard in which he held the Christian ministry and the rule of his life became placing his duty to his high calling first—and all else afterward.

"He was born October 6, 1859, in Simpson County, Mississippi, the tenth child of William Henry and Elizabeth Dampier Smith. (His father died shortly thereafter). His first memories were of war and poverty, for when he was two and a half years old the Federal army passed through his mother's farm, leaving their wake of destruction.

"Many are the courageous Mississippians whose heroic spirits made a lasting imprint on his young mind. Several contributed so greatly to various stages of his formative years that they must be mentioned by name. First was his widowed mother, Elizabeth Dampier Smith, who never wavered in maintaining a Christian home for her small son in those years of desolation. She was a devout Methodist. Next was his uncle, James Dampier, who had joined the Baptist church with his wife. Mr. Dampier and his generous wife, Mary, invited this orphan boy when in his teens to live in their home in Crystal Springs, their purpose being to enable him to go to school.

"Then there was Mr. John Harvey Thompson of Beauregard, whose home was always open to young college students who were struggling to improve themselves, the better to build a brighter day for their impoverished land; and Charles Smith was one of many who visited there between his terms at Centenary College and later while attending Vanderbilt University.

"At Mr. Thompson's house he formed friendships with the three young ladies of the household, which were to last for the duration of their respective lives. They were Miss Margaret Thompson (later Mrs. John T. Butler of Brookhaven, Miss.), Miss Clara Chrisman, to whom he regularly sent his college paper when at school in Nashville, and Miss Agnes Chrisman (later his wife for forty-nine years). The Chrisman girls were Mr. Thompson's granddaughters, orphaned by the death of their father, Capt. Thomas J. Chrisman, killed at the seige of Vicksburg.

"Charles F. Smith was admitted in December, 1884, to the Mississippi Conference, where he hoped to serve throughout his life. At the Mississippi Annual Conference in Meridian, December, 1885, Bishop McTyeire called for three volunteers to go to the great frontier, which was then Texas. Charles F. Smith did not volunteer. It is a matter of record, however, that Bishop McTyeire ordered him to go to the East Texas Conference and that deep conviction of duty which marked his entire career caused him to obey, leaving behind all that was dear to him, and to embark on the totally unknown. He never again transferred Conferences; the East Texas Conference later became part of the Texas Conference.

"His first charges were circuits, over which he traveled on horseback over almost impassible roads, but he immediately fell in love with Texas, where he was destined to labor joyfully for the next seventy years.

"In 1892 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Jordan, who died in April, 1900. In June, 1903, he married Miss Agnes Chrisman at Brookhaven, Miss., bringing her back to Texas, the scene of his labors, where she shared for forty-nine years until her death in May, 1952.

"Besides many pastorates he served during his long ministry as Presiding Elder of the San Augustine, the Benham, the Houston, and the Beaumont districts. He officially superannuated at the end of fifty active years, but for a period of about twenty years of his official retirement remained as Associate Pastor of St. Paul's Methodist Church in Houston, driving his own car and visiting hospitals daily."

Charles F. Smith died on April 5, 1958, being ninety-eight and a half years old on the day of his death. His last recorded visit to Magnolia was in May, 1888, more than seventy years before. However, he probably visited in this community on the occasion of visits to his native State. He was the guest speaker of the Mississippi Conference Historical Society at the Annual Conference at Laurel in November, 1935, speaking of his early memories of Mississippi Methodism and the great number of Mississippians who had made a good record in Texas.

A Personal Word

"The seven years in the pastorate of the Magnolia Methodist church have passed swiftly and pleasantly. On behalf of Mrs. Cain, Loyce, and myself, I should like to express our great appreciation for the many fine things you have done, including the payment of the debt on the church and its dedication, with a significant part in the Magnolia Centennial, and the complete renovation of the parsonage, which we have thoroughly enjoyed. For your whole-hearted cooperation in the plans for Loyce's wedding we are deeply grateful.

"Perhaps the most significant service in the church was that notable occasion on Friday after Thanksgiving, 1959, when Dr. Roland Bainton of Yale University and author of *Here I Stand* spoke on Martin Luther.

"There are too many to mention who have had a worthy part in the program of the church. The whole church is indebted to Mrs. Brisbane for her fine service as organist and choir director through the years.

"The History Committee are due much credit for the successful accomplishment of this worthy project.

It has been a real privilege to be associated with the two fine District Superintendents, Rev. M. F. Lytle and Rev. N. U. Boone, and to the pastors in the community and county, particularly our neighbor across the street, Rev. O. W. Wardlaw. It was a distinct honor to be a part of the long line of Methodist pastors who served the Magnolia church, beginning with Rev. Henry M. Youngblood in 1856 to the time of my predecessor, Rev. Earl C. Presley, in 1954.

"We desire to thank most sincerely Mrs. J. R. Anders of Magnolia and Mrs. H. L. Stennett of Canton for copying the manuscript."

J. B. Cain.

WELCOME

Since the history has gone to the publishers Rev. and Mrs. Hubert L. Barlow and their sons, Tom and Hubert, Jr., have moved into the Magnolia parsonage and have received a cordial welcome from the congregation.